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December 26, 2007



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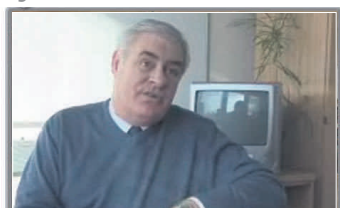


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WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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WARM WINTER WORDS

Police advice on how to stay safe

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Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

SANTA FINALLY PUT HIS FEET UP

After the busiest day of his year, Father Christmas gets comfy and out of those red robes of his as he enjoys a mince pie, a glass of port and a roaring fire. We would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a very happy festive season.

BY ED HILL

A LAST-minute surge in Christmas shoppers has put a smile on the face of the town's retailers.

And with thousands of bargain hunters set to descend on the town today as the sales get underway, it is hoped retailers will sign off 2007 in style.

Frances Burt commercial manager at the County Square shopping centre said: "Things had been fairly slow at the start but they increased as we got closer to Christmas."

"I have spoken to a few of the stores in the centre. They say that it was in the last few days before Christmas that trade suddenly took off."

It was not just the town centre to benefit either – with the Designer Outlet also emulating last year's sales figures.

The last-minute rush seems to have been a reflection of a nationwide trend. According to a survey carried out by Sainsbury's nearly £12 billion was due to be spent by shoppers in the last seven days before Christmas – nearly £3bn more than the same period last year.

Mrs Burt said: "It was manic over the weekend and Christmas Eve."

Many thought this year might see a dramatic drop in Christmas trade due to high interest rates and the resulting pressure on mortgage payments and credit cards.

But the town's shops have held firm, with Mrs Burt saying those stores that had invested in refurbishment seemed to be doing better than the ones which had not.

She said: "Some shops like BHS have done really well because they have had a refit this year which has turned the shop around. Their gift shop seems to have done really well. I was in there the other day and it was packed."

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

If you're looking for a bargain
look no further than County Square.

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sale sale sale

Where shoppers go to town

COUNTY SQ

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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TOP TV CLIPS



1 Invicta FM's Xmas Factor 2007 – see the winners and finalists as school choirs battle it out a week ago. **See Community TV**



2 Find out why traditional styles are popular for new homes and take a look at the market in your area. **See Property TV**



3 Kia baby's makeover: Steve Loader reckons the Korean brand has an obsession with youth. **See Motors TV**

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Festive rise in domestic abuse cases

■ BY ED HILL

AT Christmas it is easy to forget the extra stresses the season can bring for families.

One of the more unfortunate side effects of the period is the increase in domestic violence which accompanies most public holidays.

A combination of financial worries, alcohol consumption and other seasonal family stresses can see tempers boil over and lead to an increased caseload for professionals like Kate Turner, Ashford council's domestic violence prevention officer.

She is part of the housing services team, offering advice and working on behalf of victims of domestic violence in Ashford and Maidstone. Sometimes clients are referred by the police and other agencies but Mrs Turner can also be approached directly by victims.

She said: "There is no need for people to suffer in silence. Victims may feel very isolated but actually there is a lot of help out there."

Working closely with the police and other relevant organisations, she helps victims to avoid further domestic violence through a range of potential solutions. Initially, that often means assisting in securing court orders against abusive partners.

Another service is the Sanctuary Project, which involves creating a safe room in the victim's house where they can lock a reinforced door and summon immediate help through a panic alarm. Security modifications could also include installation of spyholes, lighting and additional door and window locks.

A 12-week course called the Freedom Programme aims to help women better understand the causes and effects of domestic violence, how to recognise abusive partners and how to improve their self-esteem.

Mrs Turner said: "Many of the people who go on the course describe it as life-changing."



VICTIMS: The strains of Christmas time can lead to an increase in domestic violence

In extreme circumstances Kate helps victims who are forced to flee their homes – finding them temporary accommodation in refuges and even relocating them on a permanent basis.

She added: "We have good contacts with the refuges but in terms of permanent accommodation this is much more of a challenge. Everyone knows there is a shortage of available housing and simply relocating is not always the best answer. Of course in some cases it is the only viable option and we have had to relocate people to the other side of the country for their own safety."

If you are a victim of domestic violence and need help you can call Kate Turner on 07919 493341. You can also contact the police victim support line on 0845 30 30 900 or the National Domestic Violence helpline on 0808 2000 247.

In emergencies you should call the police on 999.

'Launch day will be spectacular'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"With the new extension to County Square near completion there's a real sense of optimism, not only in the centre but in the town as a whole. The town is improving all the time. I think it is this feel-good factor that has driven robust sales at County Square this Christmas."

Mrs Burt looked forward to the opening of the extension to County Square which is due on March 15.

She said: "Our launch day really will be spectacular. We've got a real party planned and we are hoping that this will be just the start, with a major boom in retail opportunities."

Greg Lumley, centre manager of Ashford Designer Outlet said: "Trading at the outlet during the last 15 weeks of this year has matched last year's performance."

Viv Kenny, from the Ashford Town Centre Partnership, said: "I think we are becoming a nation of last-minute shoppers because the same happened last year. Everyone is so busy these days."

The Sainsbury's results came after it took figures from its credit card users.

The results revealed that 1.4 million people would be spending more than £1,000 in the last few days before Christmas.

It also showed that men on average were spending nearly £100 more on their Christmas presents than women.

yourashford NEWS IN BRIEF

Investigation after man dies at police station

A PROBE has been launched after a man was found dead at the town's police station.

The man, not named by police at the time of going to press, was brought to the station on Thursday night. Soon after arriving he collapsed.

He was then taken to the William Harvey Hospital by ambulance where he was later pronounced dead.

Police spokesperson Rosemary Alexander said: "It is a statutory requirement to refer such matters to the Independent Police Complaints Commission."

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE



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Jewellers: Couples ring the changes

Sales of wedding bands slump but services stay solid

■ BY ED HILL

IS MARRIAGE dead in Ashford? According to Jill Archer at the Goldrush jewellers in Lower High Street it is.

And they are not the only ones reporting that 2007 saw a decline in the number of wedding rings sold, as other retailers report a noticeable dip.

But church and register office staff say the number of marriages are holding steady – despite the decline in the sale of rings.

Mrs Archer told Yourashford: “We have hardly sold any wedding rings this year, which is strange. I can only imagine it must have been a terrible year for marriages.”

Johanne Holness from Topps Jewellers in Castle Street had also seen the number of bands snapped up by happy couples slump.

She said: “There does seem to have been a bit of a downturn this year. I can only think that fewer people are getting married.”

Earlier this year the National Office of Statistics said marriage rates had reached an all-time low, with the expense of the ceremonies and a growing trend of couples living together but not marrying, all contributing factors.



BANDS OF GOLD: Wedding ring sales have been declining over the past 12 months say jewellers in the area

However, those that conduct marriage services say Ashford does not seem to be any worse than other towns when it comes to couples making the commitment.

Alan Thomas from Kent Registration Services said: “We have not seen any particular downturn this year.”

“We have had 131 ceremonies at Elwick House in the town since January and 469 at other approved venues in the Ashford and Shepway area.”

“I don’t think that romance is dead in Ashford. We do have to compete with some more exotic places that are abroad, but Kent

has led the way in terms allowing more places to conduct weddings and we seem to be holding our own at the moment.”

The Rev Sheila McLachlan, area dean for the Church of England, said: “Nationally, last year churches accounted for 25 per cent of all weddings in the country.”

“Next year I think it will be interesting to see how things develop. The new Church of England marriage measure will widen the qualifying conditions for couples to be married in any particular church.”

“Perhaps they are selling the wrong kind of wedding rings.”

Stars join pre-Xmas shop rush

COMEDIAN Vic Reeves and his model wife Nancy Sorrell braved the Christmas crowds in Sainsbury’s to stock up ahead of the big day.

The celebrity couple, who live in Charing, were spotted in the Simone Weil Avenue store at lunchtime on Friday.

Shopping with them were their twin daughters – Elizabeth and Nell – both of whom were dressed in Father Christmas outfits.

The girls were born at the William Harvey hospital in May last year and conceived after the couple received IVF treatment.

Mr Reeves – real name Jim Mair – has been a long-time resident in the borough, previously living in a house at Aldington – the home now owned by chat show host Paul O’Grady.

In November, Reeves and comedy writing partner Bob Mortimer, wrote a new BBC Radio 2 sketch show entitled Vic Reeves’ House Arrest which ran for four episodes and featured the Mighty Boosh star Noel Fielding as well as Ms Sorrell.

Motorists facing New Year rises in car parking fees

■ BY ED HILL

DRIVERS in the borough will be getting an added headache at the start of the New Year.

Parking charges around the area are going to be increased from January 6.

Ashford council says this is the first increase in charges in more than two years, and it blames rising running costs for the hike in charges.

Charges in Ashford will now cost 70p per hour, while in Tenterden parking fees are going up to 60p for an hour. That represents a 10p rise in both towns for a 60-minute stay in the borough’s parking areas.

Cllr Neil Bell, portfolio holder for environmental services said: “It is with regret we have had to put up parking charges.”

“We haven’t done so for two-and-a-half years but rising operational costs mean we can no longer keep charges at their former level.”

Drivers will still be able to buy parking time in 5p increments, starting from 30p for 25 minutes.

The council operates 12 car parks in Ashford and Tenterden as well as the on-street parking spaces.

It will soon be opening a temporary car park in Dover Place and will be introducing a park and ride scheme in 2008.

It is also hoping to build another multi-storey car park on the edge of town.

Councillors say that they agreed the increase in February of this year but delayed implementation after taking into consideration the effects of the ring road works on Ashford’s town centre businesses.

Cllr Bell said: “We have tried to minimise the effect by keeping the increase as low as we can.”

“We also delayed the implementation of the new fees until after Christmas to help Ashford town centre traders in the run up to the big day.”

Santa Claus sees regeneration programme

CHILDREN in Stanhope received a surprise pre-Christmas visit from Santa last Thursday as he took a break before his hectic jaunt around the world.

The Parish Rooms were transformed into a grotto at the latest event staged by Moat Housing Association which is driving much of the regeneration of the estate.

And it was not just the children telling the man what they wanted on their wish list – parents too were canvassed about what future community events they would like to see.

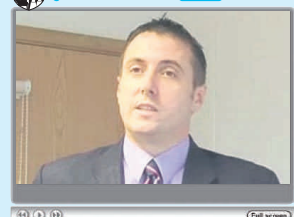
Jan Henry, Moat’s community development officer, said: “We really enjoy encouraging resident involvement through events such as this. The occasion allows us to progress with the formation of a residents’ association, so future events can be organised with greater input from the Stanhope community.”

The Stanhope estate is undergoing £150 million regeneration which will see the refurbishment of 325 homes and the replacement of seven blocks of apartments with 442 new high quality homes.

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(Ashford and Dover Campuses)

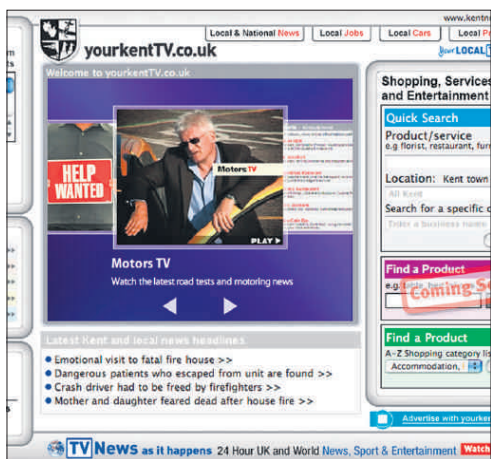
The College is closed 22nd December to 1st January inclusive. Please leave a telephone message or use the contact enquiry form on our website.

Information: 0845 207 8220

Visit: www.southkent.ac.uk



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AT YOUR FINGERTIPS: KOS Media's web channels include Yourkenttv.co.uk (above left) in addition to its news site (middle), which has been joined by KCC's KentTV.com channel, all featuring locals news and video uploads

Web community is set to keep on growing in 2008

BRACE yourselves for a broadband explosion in 2008 as super-fast download speeds transform the way we consume films, TV and home-made programming.

As the days of slow dial-up modems in our homes are replaced with cheap connections capable of streaming video and music in seconds rather than hours, a new type of entertainment is establishing itself as the mainstream.

Web-only content – pioneered by the likes of YouTube, which took content uploaded from mobile phones and video cameras and shared it with a global audience of millions – is now becoming the norm.

In fact, just last week, Kent County Council's revolutionary new broadband TV channel – KentTV.com – revealed it has chalked up more than 109,000 visits since it went live on September 21; that's an average of 35,000 visits a month.

The channel showcased more than 350 films on the site, and although criticised in some quarters for the amount of public money invested in it, it has proved there is an

■ BY NICK AMES

appetite for informative content that is delivered via PC.

Backed by Bob Geldof's Ten Alps production company, it has focused on quality short films stretching across a range of interests.

A county council spokesman said: "Kent TV has produced a number of well-crafted films that would do credit to any terrestrial channel. "These include the Royal Ballet weekend masterclass, the Annual Rough Sleeper Count in Dover, the journey to Paris on the inaugural Ebbsfleet train, memories of the Great Storm, a Trading Standards raid and A Canterbury Tale screening."

They're not the only ones either. KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper and the multi-award-winning Kent on Sunday, created waves of its own when earlier in September it unveiled its www.yourkenttv.co.uk site.

Taking the YouTube concept and transporting it into a local setting, it has already had more than 2,000 clips uploaded and more than 300,000 visitors to its new online services.

Gary Wright, group editor of the Your Local

newspaper series, said: "What lies at the heart of the success of sites such as YouTube is that it creates a community."

"The clips are easily accessible, they are not so professional people feel apprehensive about sharing their own clips, and it brings together people with the same interests with scant regard for geographic restrictions."

"We have looked to take that down to just Kent and the response has been impressive already. Word is clearly getting around that you can see your friends, neighbours, colleagues or just those who all like a certain hobby or interest you share."

"And all of this is fuelled by the fact the content is generated by the very people who visit. Plus, video starts up the minute you press 'play', thanks to broadband, and there's a huge range of clips available."

In addition to the ever-growing amount of user-generated content, Yourkenttv.co.uk has created its own footage of news and events going on in and around the county.

But its future success depends on you. So take some clips on your phone or video camera, upload them – following our simple instructions – and perhaps in 2008 you could be one of the new breed of online stars.



ONLINE: Bob Geldof's Ten Alps focuses on short films

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How the modern age keeps Invicta FM on its toes



PLANS: New Invicta FM boss Neil Webster is prepared for the multimedia market

INVICTA FM must rise to the challenges of a multimedia age, according to new boss Neil Webster.

The new managing director, who joined the radio station in November, has been talking about his first impressions and the opportunities that lie ahead in 2008 for the county's biggest commercial station.

"The company has not had a managing director for a number of years and it's a big challenge, because Invicta FM has an audience of 500,000 listeners in a month," Neil said. "It's a very significant radio station. The job is a fantastic challenge."

Experience

Since his early days as a graduate marketing trainee in television, Neil has gained significant experience in the world of sales, marketing, distribution and commercial matters.

"He worked at Classic FM when it was first established and also ran a weekly sports newspaper. Before arriving at Invicta FM, he was managing director of a national advertising sales company, First Radio Sales, for more than four years."

He has moved his family to the Canterbury area from Buckinghamshire and he was immediately impressed by the station's local profile.

"One of the key strengths of Invicta FM from an audience perspective is that we do lots of research into what people like," he said.

"It has struck me how much we are a part of the community. The unique news team is very focused on what is important to people, and we also research the music mix. It's about creating a 'must listen' experience."

■ BY JANE CONNOLLY

Neil believes the station's presenters, many of whom get heavily involved in Kent life, are another key asset. We have got fantastic presenters, people who are very famous in the community, and a great platform," he said.

But despite the station's current success, Neil is determined not to rest on Invicta FM's laurels. With the ever-increasing threat from other forms of media, he believes that radio stations must keep developing to thrive.

"I think people are living their lives slightly differently than they were a few years ago," he said. "Most people have access to the internet and can listen to any radio station in the world. Most people have more than one TV, so fragmentation is hugely important."

"We have the massive competition of the BBC, which is more than stations in many other countries are up against. People can consume media in different ways, but they're still very localised in the way they live. We create the vast majority of our output here in Kent and most of our employees are from the county."

Neil claims there are no big changes planned just yet, though any alterations will be aimed at better serving the community.

"If you think you've got something right, you've probably got it wrong," he said.

With big competitions and a 'green' month planned for 2008, it looks like an exciting time for Invicta FM.

Neil said: "It's all about people sitting in a traffic jam on the way to work, listening to Invicta, laughing and smiling, and feeling that we know what they're about."

Seeing theatre in a new way

A TEAM of audio describers in Kent is helping visually-impaired people enjoy the theatre.

Denise Smith from Dover is one who finds the project highly rewarding.

"A team of local people do for blind and partially sighted people what a signer does for deaf people," she said.

"During a live theatre performance we fill in the gaps. For blind people, instead of the words being signed, we fill in the movements."

The describing team is made up of five people: Denise from Dover, Willie Cooper from Herne Bay, Margaret Threadgold from Walmer, Sarah Munday from Thanet and Karen Adams from Faversham.

Denise said: "The audio describer, having seen the play at least five times, sits in a back room watching the stage action on a TV set and speaks into a microphone."

This connects to an infra-red system and the describer's audience listens on headsets.

The blind person can hear the lines from the actors and then their movements from the describers.

An audio describer will see a play several times, allowing them to make notes for an introduction including descriptions of the set and costumes.

Decisions are then made as to when to put in action points between the actors' lines as the describers must not speak when the actors are talking.

Denise said: "Describing a musical such as the Rocky Horror Show or Saturday Night Fever often means yelling quick bursts over the loud music and hoping you get across the fast-moving action, while other, more sedate, productions mean quietly giving points that will not spoil the poignant and very quiet action on the stage."

For details, phone Denise Smith at the Active Vision Group on 01304 206458.

How you can help your pets beat festive flab

IT'S not just people who gorge themselves over the holiday period – pets, too, can wolf back more than is good for them.

So the RSPCA is urging owners of overweight animals to make a resolution which could help them live longer lives.

Yes, the answer is to put them on a diet and sign up to www.petsgetslim.co.uk – the website that could save your pet's life.

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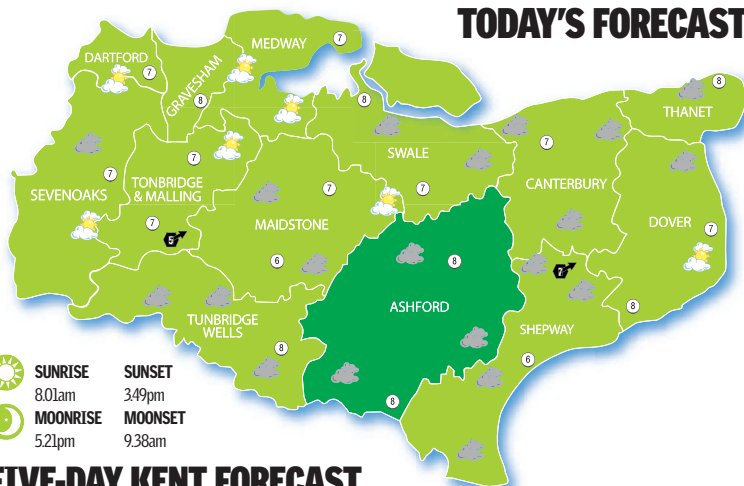
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TODAY'S FORECAST



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	1:22pm	6.2m
	Sunday	2:12pm	6.2m
Dover	Saturday	11:37am	6.6m
	Sunday	12:27pm	6.5m
Dungeness	Saturday	11:34am	7.6m
	Sunday	12:20pm	7.5m
Ramsgate	Saturday	12:07pm	5.0m
	Sunday	12:57pm	5.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:12pm	5.8m
	Sunday	2:02pm	5.8m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:27pm	5.3m
	Sunday	2:18pm	5.3m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	-1°C	Madrid	9°C
Athens	11°C	New York	4°C
Barcelona	13°C	Paris	6°C
Beijing	1°C	Rome	11°C
Bombay	36°C	Sydney	28°C
Cape Town	36°C	Tenerife	22°C
Cardiff	6°C	Tokyo	6°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	3°C
Hong Kong	24°C	Warsaw	-5°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	18°C

SUNRISE
8.01am

SUNSET
3.49pm

MOONRISE
5.21pm

MOONSET
9.38am

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	9°C	9°C	7°C	11°C	8°C	Gravesend	10°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C
Canterbury	8°C	8°C	8°C	9°C	9°C	Maidstone	10°C	10°C	8°C	12°C	10°C
Chatham	9°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C	Ramsgate	8°C	8°C	8°C	9°C	9°C
Dartford	10°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C	Rochester	9°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C
Dover	8°C	7°C	7°C	9°C	8°C	Sevenoaks	8°C	8°C	7°C	9°C	8°C
Faversham	9°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C	Sittingbourne	9°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C
Folkestone	8°C	7°C	7°C	9°C	8°C	Tonbridge	9°C	9°C	7°C	10°C	9°C
Gillingham	9°C	10°C	7°C	11°C	9°C	Tun Wells	9°C	9°C	7°C	10°C	9°C

yourashford NEWS IN BRIEF



No snow for the festive season, just wet and mild

WEATHER is set to be mild across the county during the run-up to New Year as the Christmas cold snap ends.

Rainfall is also forecast by experts from the Met Office, who say temperatures will be in the high single figure or low double figure range between now and the new year.

Forecaster Barry Grommet told this paper: "It's really going to be a mild time across Kent over the next few days, so no one is going to have to worry about harsh conditions."

"It has been cold and frosty, but rain will come and that will spell the end of the wintry weather. It will take a bit of time, but the weather is going to be very average for the time of year."

"Temperatures will be in the range of between eight and 12 degrees, which is roughly the norm."

"There will be showers, but even they will not be heavy, so it should be quite pleasant."

"Winds are not going to be too strong, either – just breezy. But I have to say there is very little chance of any snow – so the picture postcard scenery will not be there."

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Sun 23rd Dec	CLOSED	Sat 29th Dec	9:00am-4:00pm
Christmas Eve	CLOSED	Sun 30th Dec	10:00am-4:00pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED	Mon 31st Dec	10:00am-4:00pm
Boxing Day	CLOSED	New Year's Day	10:00am-4:00pm
Thur 27th Dec	10:00am-4:00pm	2nd Jan 2008	Normal Hours Resume



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QUESTION & ANSWER

STEPHEN MULHERN



Q How is the pantomime going and do all the cast members get on well?

A It's going exceptionally well. I've done seven pantomimes and this is by far the best. The magic carpet is spectacular, because an American magician created the method of making it fly and it's amazing. We don't use strings or anything like that, so it's really fantastic.

The cast is really strong and we get on brilliantly. We always go for a drink after the show and last night we went for a big meal together. The timing is so important, so it's great when a cast is strong.

One of the perks is working with Shaun Williamson, which is great because I get all the news about Extras. He has a copy of the Christmas special and I've seen it already!

Q Being a magician yourself, how do you view its state as a form of entertainment?

A My dad taught me magic from the age of 11 and I just kept going with it. I went on to present Tricky TV and The Quick Trick Show, for which I was lucky enough to win a Bafta.

We don't see the old Saturday night magic anymore, with Paul Daniels and variety acts. Magic is really contemporary now.

The person who brought it up to date was David Blaine, going out on the street in modern clothes. Then Derren Brown came along,

with mind reading and the art of misdirection. But the likes of David Copperfield still have a stage and he's still the leader of original magic.

David Blaine shot himself in the foot by changing from a cool magician into a Houdini-style showman with endurance tricks. If average members of the public are going on TV and doing those stunts, people aren't going to fall for that nonsense anymore because they think anyone can do it.

Q If you could wave a wand, what sort of magic show would you create?

A I love performing live on stage, getting the feedback and reaction from the audience. But in reality, it can be difficult to do the big shows without television. Variety is still quite hard to get back on TV.

I think I would prefer to do a magic show on stage – I'd love to step back in time and become a vaudeville act.

I love period films about magic, like The Prestige and The Illusionist. My friend actually taught magic to Edward Norton when he starred in The Illusionist and he said Norton was intrigued by it all.

Q You're a hugely successful children's television presenter, but what are your plans for the future?

A It's been great to have such longevity, but Saturday morning is the last place you can go in kid's TV. So I've decided to take a

step away from it and get more into family shows.

Next year I'll be doing two shows for ITV – Animals Do The Funniest Things and Kids Do The Funniest Things – and I've just recorded a pilot for an ITV gameshow.

We went to Copenhagen to film it and it features two families competing against each other in a quiz.

Trying to move from children's TV to family or adult entertainment is the hardest step. Presenters always get compared to Ant and Dec, but I don't mind. I know the boys and, without question, they deserve every bit of success they've had.

Q What was it like meeting the Queen at the Royal Variety Show?

A It was amazing. I can't pretend I'm a big monarchy fan, though I'm fine with it. But when you meet her, you just think 'oh my god, she's on the pound coin!'

She said I was a very amusing boy and I couldn't think of anything else to say but 'thank you'. What I really wanted was my picture taken with her, but you can't do that.

Q What are your plans for 2008?

A As well as my new television shows, I'll be doing a six-week tour with my own magic and variety show.

Q & A

STEPHEN MULHERN is currently starring in Aladdin at the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury, alongside former EastEnders star Shaun Williamson and local panto legend and comedian, Dave Lee

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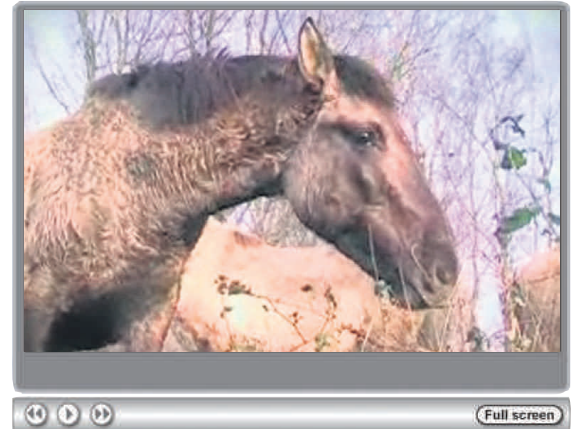
1 Stars kick off new pitches

When Margate FC opened its new five-a-side pitches the stars came out to put them through their paces. A host of former players, including Paul Merson, Ray Parlour, Neville Southall, Kenny Sansom and BBC presenter Mark Bright (right), got their boots on again.



2 Ponies saddle up for a new life

Wild Konik ponies have been released at Gibbons Brook nature reserve in Sellindge in a bid to protect its fenland habitat. Residents are being urged to help the animals as they get used to life in the wild. The ponies were once native in the UK – but that was in prehistoric times.



3 The sound of angels singing

Watch presenters James Heming and Ali Wheeler from Invicta FM's morning show as they announce the winners of the Xmas Factor contest to find the best school choir in the county. The winner was Minster Primary School with a lovely rendition of Silent Night.



4 Be responsible and be safe

Reporter Ed Hill talks to police officer David Griffiths about a countywide campaign called Safer Winter. The campaign is designed to get the safety message across to 18- to 26-year-olds, mainly about drinking. Ed also talks to the Pubwatch chairman.



SPORT TV



A futsal coach teaching youngsters football skills

BUSINESS TV



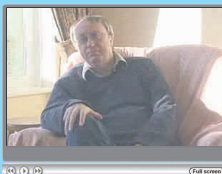
Meet the mums who launched a child-friendly business

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Author David Hewson discusses his best-selling thrillers

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Motoring editor Steve Loader on a car for the iPod generation

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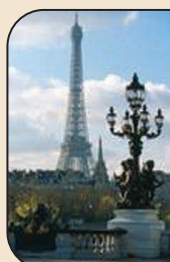
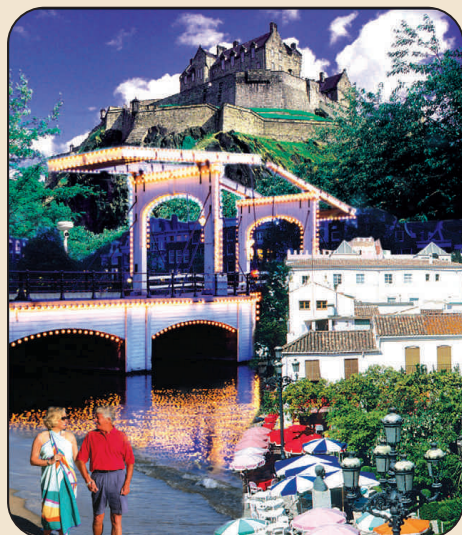


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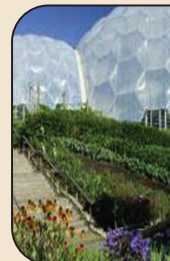
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Listeners mourn radio star

TRIBUTES are still pouring in to BBC Radio Kent for the station's award-winning reporter Jonathan Witchell, who died aged just 33.

Mr Witchell, who lived in Sevenoaks, died 10 days ago after going to the doctor with stomach pains.

Paul Leaper, the managing editor of BBC Radio Kent, said: "This has been one of the hardest weeks in Radio Kent's history."

"Jonathan will be remembered as someone who loved Kent and loved radio."

"He had creative flair and scrupulous attention to detail. He was simply one of the station's best all-rounders."

"I know he'll be sorely missed by all his colleagues and listeners to BBC Radio Kent. Our hearts go out to his family at this difficult time."

Mr Witchell joined BBC Radio Kent almost 10 years ago as a broadcast journalist.

The corporation said he very quickly became a firm favourite, gaining great affection from both listeners and colleagues.

Born and raised in Kent, he studied at Salford University before completing a Masters degree at Stirling University.

His broadcasting career began at Hospital

■ BY PETER BOYES

Radio Bromley, followed by stints at BBC Radio Devon and BBC Radio Lincolnshire.

He joined BBC Radio Kent in 1998 and contributed to many of the station's programmes, working with Barbara Sturgeon, Paul James and Paul Harris.

Mr Witchell's documentary about James Bond in Kent won him the accolade of Kent Broadcast Journalist of the Year in 2004.

Last year, Mr Witchell spent a year working with new journalists in Sri Lanka and producing reports for the BBC World Service.

This summer he worked on a programme with broadcasters Dave Cash and Johnnie Walker to mark the 40th anniversary of the abolition of pirate radio.

Mr Witchell, who was unmarried, went into hospital with a stomach complaint. The cause of his death is as yet unknown.

Details of Mr Witchell's funeral are yet to be confirmed. However if listeners wish to offer their condolences, BBC Radio Kent will pass them to his family.

Please write to BBC Radio Kent, The Great Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1QQ, or email radio.kent@bbc.co.uk.



Picture BBC

AWARD-WINNER: Reporter Jonathan Witchell was a firm favourite with the listeners of BBC Radio Kent

Headline names join launch of journalism course at university

THE University of Kent is making the news with the official launch of its new degree course in journalism.

Based at the University's Medway campus, the Centre for Journalism will combine traditional print media and journalism skills with training in digital and multimedia communications, including radio, television and online publishing.

Attending the launch were two major names from the news industry – Gavin Esler, one of the main presenters of BBC Two's Newsnight programme, and former Roger Alton, editor of national Sunday newspaper The Observer.

Mr Esler and Mr Alton will both sit on a special panel of advisers, who will help oversee the new degree programme and provide expert tips and guidance from inside the news industry.

Multimedia

Also on the panel will be Phil Harding, a former editor of Radio Four's Today programme and one of the founders of Radio Five Live.

The university's professor of journalism, Tim Luckhurst, said that Kent was moving into exciting new territory with the launch of the course. "We will be teaching students all about 21st-century journalism – making sure they have the intellectual skills and the multimedia know-how to embark on successful careers in the fast-changing news industry," he said.

"It's my aim that the University of Kent will lead the field in the teaching of modern-day journalism. We want to make sure every student relishes the prospect of learning their craft here at Medway."

"The Medway towns will provide an ideal newsbeat for any news trainee, and central London is also close at hand," he said.

The teaching team at the Centre for Journalism includes Ian Reeves, an award-winning former editor of journalists' trade title Press Gazette, and national newspaper columnist Sarah Lonsdale.

The degree course, which begins in September 2008, will provide its students with a state-of-the-art newsroom and other hi-tech facilities, located within the Gillingham Building on the campus at Chatham Maritime.

A MUSH AND A SHOVE

Tearing through the countryside on a trike pulled by a team of huskies is an experience that both animal lovers and adrenaline junkies would savour.

It may seem more suited to an alpine adventure, but husky racing can be enjoyed at an animal rescue park in Kent.

Jonny Ames is the centre manager at Eagle Heights near Eynsford, and owner of the Husky Experience.

He said: "I found out about husky racing after we got offered a couple of rescue dogs and when we got them we did a bit of driving."

Since its launch two years ago, the venture has grown in popularity and the 21-year-old says weekends are booked until the end of the season in February.

'Mushers' – the name given to some-

one who drives a team of dogs – can tear around the four-mile course with an instructor.

Or, and Mr Ames said this was not for the faint-hearted, people could learn the art of mushing and take control of the trike themselves.

Two teams go around the track at one time and Mr Ames says he plans to do an extra ride a day to meet demand.

He added: "The dogs love it because they love to run."

Mr Ames's father Alan is the director of the centre, which he set up 11 years ago. It has 20 huskies, and most are likely to arrive from centres such as Battersea Dogs Home.

For more information, visit www.thehuskyexperience.co.uk.



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Picture: ARCADIA



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DOROTHY PERKINS

Bubble dress, price £40

Picture ARCADIA

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Make start of 2008 a corker thanks to M&S

CHAMPAGNE and sparkling wine prices have been slashed to help bring in the New Year in style.

Marks and Spencer is getting ready to celebrate the dawn of 2008 by offering customers up to £30 off selected cases.

Customers can enjoy the savings on cases of De Saint Gall Champagne Premier Cru Brut, Champagne Oudinot Medium Dry and Champagne Oudinot Vintage 2002, as well as many more.

For more details visit the website www.marksandspencer.com.

A Top Shop for grabbing a discounted bargain

SHOPPERS can save up to £75 on a range of the latest fashions at one of the town's leading high street retailers.

Top Shop is helping its customers bring in the New Year with style by slashing prices on selected jeans, tops and dresses.

Customers can go out looking glamorous with £30 off silk stud dresses, £20 off chopped silk trim trousers and up to £75 off selected party/casual dresses.

Save 50 per cent at Dorothy Perkins sale

IF you're in the hunt for warm clothes, you can save up to 50 per cent off winter clothing.

Dorothy Perkins has launched its winter sale, which includes coats from £20, shoes from just £7, dresses from £12, and tops and bottoms from £7.

Skirts, trousers, casual and going out tops, as well as all-in-one suits, are among the goodies that can be found at the store.

For more information see in-store or visit www.dorothyperkins.com.

Men's clothes are going for a Burton near you

MEN can wrap up warm and enjoy 30 per cent off winter accessories and up to £30 off shoes as a winter sale kicks in.

Popular men's clothing store Burton has cut prices on selected shoes and is offering 30 per cent off of hats, scarves and gloves.

Prices start from £3 in the winter accessory sale and customers can buy fashionable smart leather shoes from £20.

For more details visit the store or www.burton.co.uk.

Good Evans! Get your party wear discounted

HIGH street fashion retailer Evans is offering up to 50 per cent discounts on party wear.

The popular brand has a range of stunning tops up for grabs in the amazing online offer. Shoppers can get £13 off a £28 silver spot print cami and £25 off a £50 silk bustier sash top.

Evans is also offering deals on workwear, bras and comfort shorts. For more bargains visit www.evans.co.uk.

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WIN! An animal adoption box

YOURLOCAL Newspaper has come together with Kent based charity, The Aspinall Foundation, to give readers the chance to win an animal 'adoption box' complete with a tiger, elephant or gorilla cuddly toy, helping the charity continue in their aim to protect and breed endangered animals and return them to their natural habitat in the wild.

"Adopt in a box", encourages children to learn more about the charity's animal protection and conservation programmes, as well as raising funds to support this work.

This is your chance to win your own "adopt in a box". Normally the cost is £25 which includes either a cuddly Tugar, the tiger, housed at Port Lympne or Jara, the elephant, who lives at Howletts, both of whom are featured on BBC TV's Roar or Djéké who lives in Africa. An entry ticket to either park, an adoption certificate, plus fun stuff for your mobile or PC is also included.

The Aspinall Foundation supports and manages Howletts and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks, home to more than 1,000 animals and 90



different species.

The parks house the largest captive group of western lowland gorillas in the world; the largest breeding herd of black rhino outside of Africa and the largest collection of African elephants in Europe. The parks are at the forefront of breeding rare and endangered species including clouded leopard, rusty spotted cats, gibbons, drills, black and white ruffed lemurs, hunting dogs, lions and tigers.

This work includes two gorilla rescue and rehabilitation projects in Gabon and Congo.

As well as joint conservation projects in Cambodia, South America and Tanzania, by way of rescue and rehabilitation, particularly of rhinos and primates.

To purchase one of these amazing adoption boxes please visit www.totallywild.net or call 01303 234199.

For your chance to win Tugar, Djéké or Jara,

simply answer the following question: **What are the names of the three animals that you can adopt in a box?**

Send your answer on a postcard or sealed envelope with your name, age, address and phone number to Adopt in a Box comp, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR Closing date is January 28, 2008.

1. This competition is not open to employees (and immediate families) of KOSmedia or any other company associated with it.

2. Entries which are altered, illegible or not in accordance with the rules will be disqualified.

3. Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries lost or damaged. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

4. Entries must be received by noon on January 28, 2008 and names of the winners will be published in this newspaper. There is no cash alternative to the prize.

The Aspinall Foundation would like to keep readers updated with its work, including sending out the free magazine, 'WildCry'. Please write on your entry 'NO UPDATES' if you would prefer not to be updated.



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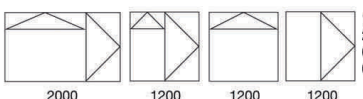
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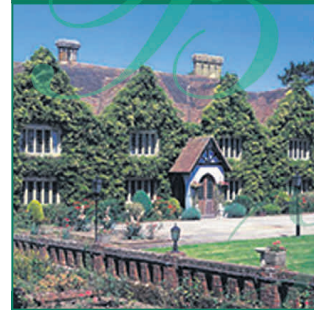


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Vote for your favourite Kentish food and drink

The search is on for the County's best food and drink in the annual Taste of Kent awards. Produced in Kent - Which runs the coveted county food and drink honours - has teamed up with Kosmedia to urge our readers to get involved in voting for their favourite brewers, butchers, vineyard, restaurants and pubs. Simply complete the voting form, or you can also vote online through our won website www.kentnews.co.uk

WE want your votes for the best of Kentish food and drink. The categories are listed below with a brief description. For full details of the awards please visit the dedicated website at www.kentnews.co.uk.



2007 CATEGORIES

- 1) KENT BUTCHER/MEAT PRODUCER 2007:** Butcher or farmer, selling or rearing meat from animals that have spent the majority of their lives in Kent.
 - 2) KENT VINEYARD 2007:** Vineyard based in Kent.
 - 3) KENT RESTAURANT 2007:** Restaurant demonstrating active local sourcing.
 - 4) KENT FOOD PRODUCER 2007:** Kent-based food producer that demonstrates active local sourcing and contribution to the local economy.
 - 5) KENT NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINK PRODUCER 2007:** Non-alcoholic drink producer.
 - 6) KENT PUB 2007:** Pub demonstrating active local sourcing.
 - 7) KENT LOCAL FOOD RETAILER 2007:** Kent-based retailer that demonstrates active local sourcing.
 - 8) KENT BREWERY 2007:** Brewery based in Kent.
 - 9) KENT FOOD PRODUCT 2007:** An individual product made by a Kent food producer.
 - 10) KENT SEAFOOD RETAILER 2007:** Kent-based seafood retailer that demonstrates active local sourcing
 - 11) KENT FARMERS' MARKET 2007**
- YOUNG CHEF OF THE YEAR 2007**
This last category will be awarded following a competition in association with the Abode Hotel, Canterbury.

RULES OF VOTING: Voting will close on December 31, 2007 so hurry and get your nominations in. Original voting forms only will be accepted (photocopies will not be accepted under any circumstances). Voting may take place in any number of categories - not all categories have to be completed. Produced in Kent Ltd reserves the right to remove duplicate or spoilt vote. The decision of Produced in Kent Ltd and its nominated judges is final.

TASTE OF KENT AWARDS 2007 VOTING FORM



Category	Business	Location
1		
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11		

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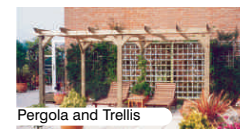


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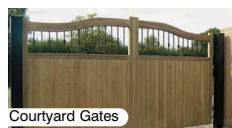


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Campaigns can't take the booze out of Christmas

THE police have launched a campaign about the dangers of alcohol specifically aimed at young people.

The posters and leaflets urge hip young things that chundering up your Byriani in front of your pals may not best the best way to woo a woman into bed. Although these days it seems more likely the women will be the ones making a spectacle of themselves draped round their friends, lager in hand, saying, "I love you, your my best mate you are."

The police message is not a bad one. Younger people are the most vulnerable when it comes to alcohol. Although I have to say the worst thing that has ever happened to me whilst on the drink is ending up on my behind in the entrance of a Wakefield working men's club covered in a bag of my own chips. Think of it, a whole bag of chips wasted; it makes me shudder to this day.

There's no doubt alcohol is dangerous when you are young and reckless. A friend of mine once found himself strewn across the rails of the Central Line three minutes before the next train

to Ealing Broadway was due to come rattling into the station. Actually he wasn't that young. He was a French teacher in an inner city school and it had been a tough week. Fortunately, some quick-witted people noticed what had happened and pulled him onto the platform in time. I was too 'tired' to notice myself and had fallen asleep on one of the benches.

Much as I support the police message, particularly when it comes to drinking and getting behind the wheel of a car, I think they have a tough job on their hands to transform the drinking culture in this country.

In fact Christmas is the worst time of the year to persuade people not to drink, particularly when the drinks companies are pulling out all the stops on huge marketing campaigns.

At Christmas time we drink the weirdest drinks imaginable. Ginger wine, Cherry brandy and advocaat – the only drink that looks better coming up than it does going down.

And then there are all the weird and wonderful liqueurs. Even as I write this there is a bottle of some horrible white chocolate cream drink sitting in my kitchen that proudly boasts

on its label that it is 'export quality'. I had one small glass of it two years ago and seeing as it says on the back of it 'consume within ninety days once opened,' the only export market it is fit for is the chemical weapons business.

Christmas and alcohol go together like... well, like Christmas and Christianity. It's impossible to have one without the other. Even the most devout nun might allow themselves a nip of sherry to get into the swing of things.

And I say why not? It's good to let your hair down at least once a year. Drink is a great social lubricant. Think of all the slightly less than attractive men who have managed to trick good looking women into bed thanks to the wonders of alcohol. Would you deny them those moments of glory?

People say that alcohol is just another drug, and in many ways they are right. It can lead to terrible consequences and ruined lives, but life would be much duller without it.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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TEXT: **ASH** then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include your name)

LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, **Chris Britcher**, on 01303 817171 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Ashford blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor.

And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to

www.yourashford.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, YourAshford, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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YOUR LETTERS

Monorail could put town back on track

Support grows for ambitious futuristic railway



Monorail brings up images of Springfield

Everytime I think of the monorail it conjures up images of the one built in Springfield in that famous episode of The Simpsons.

In the episode, the town are about to commit millions of dollars to improving the town centre which is in a state of disrepair, when a smooth talking salesman comes along, gets the town to, literally, sing the monorails praises and the scheme gets the go-ahead, only for it to end in embarrassing failure.

Sound like a scenario happening here?

Surely, if there are millions of pounds available for such a project, it could be better spent elsewhere?

Perhaps some could be spent on sorting the ring road out once and for all, for starters?

Brian O'Connor
Via email

Transport upgrade will help connect us all

What a fantastic idea the monorail sounds – I just hope the whole

town gets behind the scheme.

With the transport as bad as it is in the town at the moment, the chance of being able to get across the town centre smoothly and quickly sounds great – and will surely attract visitors from far and wide.

Kate Hill
Via email

Will upgrade include the Park Farm estate?

I've just read your article "Communication technology has an upgrade" (Yourashford, December 5) and am intrigued about the use of fibre-optic cable for broadband connections.

I live on the Park Farm estate where parts of the close I live in had a fibre optic line fitted when the houses were built. As a result of this these houses are unable to get a broadband connection because the fibre-optic cable won't support the broadband signal.

The reason I am intrigued is because your article talks about the use of fibre optics for supplying high speed broadband across the borough. I'm hoping this is the case and that I will be able to get broadband in the not too distant future. If not then I am stuck with the expensive option of satellite broadband.

It would be nice if the "communication upgrade" discussed in your article meant that people who can't currently get broadband were able to, instead of just improving the broadband speed for those who already have it.

Chris Hoskison
Park Farm

It's time we gave some warmth to the elderly

We have been greeted with the Government's news that excess



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Beneath most stories on the www.yourashford.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourashford.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Ashford, Tenterden and the surrounding villages.

The best comments left will be included on these pages too – ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourashford before you've grabbed your copy, you never need to miss out.

On www.yourashford.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly acclaimed e-editions.

winter deaths for people 65 and over have rise once again, along with the number of pensioner

households which are living in fuel poverty. Through the British Gas Help

the Aged Partnership's winter campaign we've worked to tackle this rise through a number of initiatives.

This year the focus has been on improving the take up of benefits, as the campaign has revealed that over two and a half million older people live in just one room of their home in order to keep warm and save on heating costs, and over one million cut back on food to be able to pay for their heating bills.

So this is Christmas. And what more can the Government do to meet its statutory duty to eradicate fuel poverty in vulnerable households by 2010?

Currently, £4.5 billion in benefits for older people goes unclaimed every year.

So my wish this year is for the Government to introduce the automatic payment of all benefits and to invest in face-to-face benefits advice services for older people, like the British Gas Help the Aged Benefits Advice Programme.

This would enable the money to be delivered into the homes and lives of those who need it to be able to stay warm and well this Christmas.

Jane Whitfield, CBE
On behalf of the British Gas
Help the Aged Partnership

It's good to know more about the café

It's not often I write into a local newspaper, but I just wanted to say that I thought the interview with Julie Breen in your paper last week (Q&A, Yourashford) was really interesting.

I have regularly popped into the Airport Café over the years, so to learn a little of its history was fascinating.

Peter Grant
Via email



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ON GENERAL RELEASE

YOUTH WITHOUT YOUTH (15)



Full screen

FRANCIS Ford Coppola's *Youth Without Youth* stars Tim Roth as Dominic Matei, an ageing professor who survives a cataclysmic event to find his youth miraculously restored. Dominic's rejuvenation is matched by a highly evolved intellect, which attracts the attention of Nazi scientists, forcing him into exile. While on the run, he's reunited with his lost love, Laura.

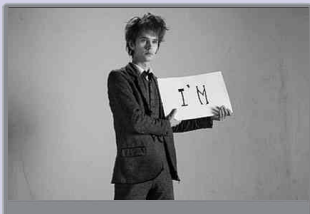
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (U)



Full screen

SONGWRITER Dave Seville transforms singing chipmunks, Alvin, Simon and Theodore into pop sensations - while the out-of-control trio lays waste to his home, wreaks havoc with his career, and turns Dave's once orderly life upside down. The film is based on the popular TV series.

I'M NOT THERE (15)



Full screen

An unconventional journey into the life and times of Bob Dylan. Six actors portray different aspects of his persona, from the public to the private, weaving a rich portrait of this ever-elusive American icon.

Christmas presents...

Your quick guide to the films showing on the big screen during the festive season

ST TRINIAN'S Certificate 12A

GIRLS just wanna have fun in Oliver Parker and Barnaby Thompson's revival of the naughty hockey stick-wielding minxes. *St Trinian's* is frothy and undemanding fun, interspersed with snappily edited montages set to songs by Shampoo, Sophie Ellis Bextor and Girls Aloud. Stars Rupert Everett, Colin Firth and the brilliant Russell Brand as Flash Harry.

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS Certificate U

ALVIN And The Chipmunks treats its audience like fools, keeping dialogue to a minimum the plot is slow. Kids might giggle at the sight of one chipmunk noisily breaking wind in Dave's face, but laughs are few and far between.

ENCHANTED Certificate PG

COMBINING animation and live action, *Enchanted* has all the ingredients of a modern classic: great performances, rumbustious comic set pieces, a sprinkling of romance and just enough heartfelt sentiment to draw a goofy, contented grin. Stars Amy Adams, Patrick Dempsey, Susan Sarandon and Timothy Spall.

BEE MOVIE Certificate U

CO-WRITTEN by Jerry Seinfeld, who also voices the lead character, computer-animated adventure *Bee Movie* is a fitfully amusing romp that peddles many obviously puns and gags: "A perfect report card - all b's!" Seinfeld brings his dry humour to his role while Renee Zellweger, Matthew Broderick and co offer lively support.



GIRL POWER: A modern take on an old classic, the new *St Trinian's* film features Rupert Everett and Colin Firth

MR MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM Certificate U

WRITTEN and directed by Zach Helm, *Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium* unfolds in the form of a storybook narrated by a lonely nine-year-old boy called Eric (Zach Mills). Dustin Hoffman is instantly loveable as the wacky and wildly eccentric impresario and Natalie Portman brings depth to her role.

THE GOLDEN COMPASS Certificate PG

Thirteen-year-old Brit Dakota Blue Richards was plucked from obscurity to play the pivotal role of Lyra and she is terrific, holding her own

against Nicole Kidman (in scene-stealing form) and a miasma of jaw-dropping special effects. The *Golden Compass* is an entertaining introduction to Philip Pullman's writing, festooned with dazzling action set pieces.

FRED CLAUSS Certificate PG

PACKED with festive schmaltz, this film will make you feel nauseous. Vince Vaughn stars in this modern day fairy-tale about the rivalry between Saint Nick (Paul Giamatti) and his misunderstood brother, Fred (Vaughn). Laughs are so thin on the ground, it's enough to bring out the Scrooge in you.

YOU CAN WATCH ANY OF THESE FILM PREVIEWS AND GET DETAILS OF THE LATEST MOVIES BY LOGGING ON @ yourkenttv.co.uk

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WITH soulful vocals reminiscent of Macy Gray, Maidstone duo Mooli are an act to check out if laid back ambience is your thing.

And it's really started kicking off for Clea Llwellyn and Ben Copland, who started writing and recording back in 2003.

The video on yourkenttv – made for the song Easy – got picked for screening on MTV 2 in February 2008, despite “a very underground budget”.

And the fourth track off their debut album – Concubine – called Underneath the Same Sun, will be included on a compilation put together by Fierce Angels next year, along with the likes of Royksopp and Snow Patrol.

Concubine will be on general release in February next year, but you can order a copy now on the band's website www.moolimusic.co.uk.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUR BAND ON THIS PAGE OR HAVE A GIG YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIST, SIMPLY LOG ON @ yourkenttv.co.uk

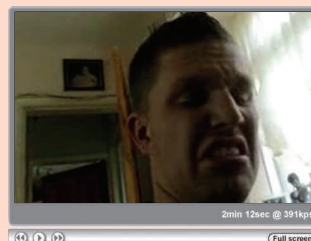
AND FOLLOW THE EASY-TO-USE INSTRUCTIONS

LIVE AND LOUD



EMCEE FLAPJACK:

Taking the biscuit once more is EmCee Flapjack, back with a new hit, this time in the form of a nostalgic reply to Graham B's old 90s DJ message.



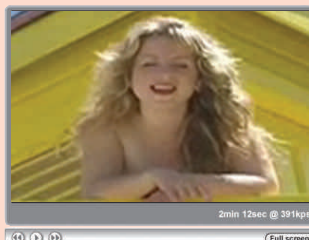
GRAVY BOAT:

Ace is back and he can't stand gravy, especially when he's trying to sing along to K.D Lang. Maybe someone should tell him you have to add hot water?



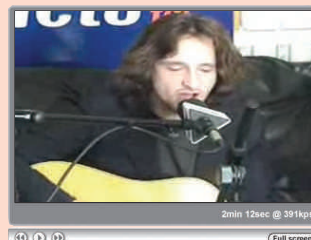
THE FONZE:

According to Graham B, his two favourite things are slogan t-shirts and hardcore dance. He also seems to enjoy running through fields with no trousers on.



TAKE IT EASY:

Mooli have just completed their debut album entitled Concubine featuring this track, entitled Easy. Visit www.moolimusic.com to order a copy.



LOUNGING AROUND:

Ben Mills teamed up with Invicta FM to give Allison Colgate from Sittingbourne an early Mother's Day gift she'll never forget - he played live in her living room.



TUNE IN:

Not strictly a music video... there's not a lot happening if we're honest, but you can still listen to the tune, created by Kent electronic artist, Yerk AKA Nick Burkinyoung.

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KENT'S PANTOMIMES

Ongoing
Theatres across the county



FOR festive fun and some real Christmas spirit, nothing beats a good pantomime, here's our round-up of all the great family shows on offer this Christmas:

Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury: Aladdin. Starring Shaun Williamson, Stephen Mulhern and Dave Lee. Ends on Sunday, January 20. Tickets £8.50 to £21.50. Call 01227 787787 or www.marlowetheatre.com.

Orchard Theatre, Dartford: Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs. Starring Wendi Peters. Ends on Sunday, January 13. Tickets £13 to £21. Call 01322 220000 or www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

Woodville Halls, Gravesend: Aladdin. Starring Paul O'Brien. Ends on Sunday, December 30. Tickets £6 to £12.50. Call 01474 337774 or www.woodvillehalls.com.

Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells: Cinderella. Starring Barney Harwood and Sarah Thomas. Ends on Sunday, January 6. Tickets £10 to £19.50. Call 01892 530613 or 532072 or www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.

Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone: Sleeping Beauty. Starring Beau Brady and Kate Sheridan. Ends on Sunday, January 6. Tickets from £6.95. Call 01622 758611 or www.hazlitttheatre.co.uk.

Central Theatre, Chatham: Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs. Starring Shane Lynch, Sheila Ferguson and Claire Huckle, pictured. Ends on Sunday, January 6. Tickets £12.50 to £17.50. Call 01634 338338 or www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone: Jack and the Beanstalk. Starring Gabrielle Bradshaw and Claire Coultry. Ends on Sunday, January 6. Tickets £10, concessions available. Call 0870 4000 890 or www.leascliffhall.co.uk.

Theatre Royal Margate: Sleeping Beauty. Ends on Sunday, December 30. Tickets £9 to £12.50. Call 01227 787787 or 0845 1301786.

COMING UP IN 2008

Sinden Theatre, Tenterden



FOR some great tributes and inimitable originals, take a look at the Sinden Theatre's new season for spring 2008.

The theatre's patron, Sir Donald Sinden, will open the season with another of his hugely popular evenings. Having spent more than 60 years in show business, Sir Donald has a wealth of hilarious and fascinating anecdotes at his fingertips.

Lose yourself with Alice in Wonderland when The Staplehurst Dramatic Society stages the classic family tale, or visit far-flung shores with an amateur production of the great musical Chicago.

Local hero Dave Lee, pictured, will be bringing a large portion of his humour to Tenterden, along with his drumming skills, for a great evening of music and comedy.

Pay tribute to some of rock's greatest bands with The ELO Experience, The Complete Beatles, The Bootleg Shadows and Dire Fakes.

For full details of The Sinden's new season, call the box office on 01580 763826 or visit www.sindentheatre.biz.



NEW SEASON

Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



DANCE, monsters and a speechless stand-up comic are just some of the highlights of the Gulbenkian's new season.

StopGAP Dance Company will present an evening of movement that manages to be lovely, shocking and humorous. Featuring four charismatic dancers, some disabled and others not, the show promises a powerful and memorable evening.

Little Maud needs help to find the source of some troubling noises in Does A Monster Live Next Door?

Pappy's Fun Club – three of whom are Kent University graduates – will be joined on a double bill of comedy by award-winning stand-up Tom Basden, who uses songs, pictures and films but never talks.

The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain has already announced a second January performance since the first show sold out.

With top comedians Mark Watson, pictured, and Josie Long providing more laughs, the stage is set for a fantastic spring.

For full details, pick up a brochure or visit www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.

ASHFORD LEISURE

Get down and dirty with rocking covers band

HEAR the music of great artists like ZZ Top and Gary Moore played live in Willesborough on Sunday, December 30.

Down 'n' Dirty, a four-piece covers band, plays classic rock by acts such as Van Halen and Bad Company.

The band will be performing at the Hoodon on the Hill in Silverhill Road.

To find out more about the band, visit www.freewebs.com/downndirtyrock.

Soft rockers are a star act in pub performance

FOR an evening of live rock music, head down to The Star in Ashford on Friday, December 28.

Soft rock act Shazam will be performing at the pub in East Hill from 9.15pm to 11.15pm. No under-18s will be admitted.

There is a small car park at the pub and a pay and display nearby. For more details, call The Star on 01233 620391 or visit www.starashford.co.uk.

See in the new year with live entertainment

SULTAN, a four-piece from Kent, will be performing at the Woolpack Inn in Smeeth on New Year's Eve.

The band, whose members are from Sittingbourne and Maidstone, play a wide variety of both old and new music. The gig starts at 9.15pm.

For details, call the pub on 01303 812196. To find out more about the band, see www.geocities.com/sultanband

Cinema offers you an enchanted evening

FOR a break from all the Christmas television, head out to the nearest cinema to catch a great film instead.

The latest crop of releases includes children's favourite Alvin and The Chipmunks, ping pong comedy Balls of Fury and the modern fairy tale Enchanted.

Will Smith stars as the last human battling to survive in I Am Legend, while a British classic gets a makeover in St Trinian's.

For showing times and prices, log on to www.cineworld.co.uk.

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LOCAL TV ONLINE



Shaun Williamson is wowing the pantomime crowds at The Marlowe

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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

No16

Can you spot the five differences between these two pictures of Ramsgate's Royal harbour?

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CROSSWORD

No16

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CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Remove weapons from lunar model (5)
- 4 Not a ruddy American pioneer! (8)
- 8 It's the result of the new deal (14)
- 10 Rare gull I removed is a fighter (9)
- 11 Pronounce extreme (5)
- 12 Model remains with this to face! (4)
- 13 Contaminated plot - duel fought (8)
- 17 Space beneath a desk, or a boy's trousers? (8)
- 18 Fish having a tailpiece (4)
- 22 Replant shaly trees (5)
- 24 Got back ground in a rush (9)
- 25 Similarly using an identical symbol (2,3,4,5)
- 26 Coward cut back by Scottish golf-course (8)
- 27 Leave one's car taking a coat (5)

DOWN

- 1 Honourable post? (7)
- 2 One named in the post (9)
- 3 Wretched state of sire struggling in my clutches (6)
- 4 Promise Penny a part (6)
- 5 Golden dog found in Canada? (8)
- 6 Now and then completely recovered (8)
- 7 Influence strike (5)
- 9 Loud colourful chap (4)
- 14 Person repairing implements found leak motor developed (9)
- 15 Excited that chick endlessly with gossip (8)
- 16 A pupil takes mural into the open-air (8)
- 17 Church of Scotland (4)
- 19 Appendices from Aden Dad revised (7)
- 20 Bill replaced menu, having insight (6)
- 21 Delay going to bed in order to keep watch on one's feet (4,2)
- 23 Declares but has no authority (3-2)

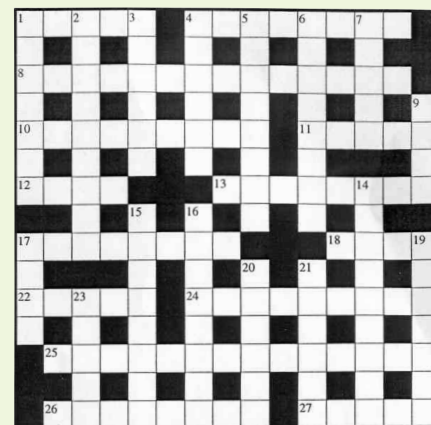
QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Tribal leader (5)
- 4 Serrated (3-5)
- 8 Lowest part of the ocean (6,2,3,3)
- 10 Pillaged (9)
- 11 Arrangement (3-2)
- 12 Counterpart (4)
- 13 Antiteater (8)
- 17 Capital of Australia (8)
- 18 Leap (4)
- 22 Female title (5)
- 24 Strip of territory (9)
- 25 Deadpan (14)
- 26 Apathy (8)
- 27 Modelled (5)

DOWN

- 1 Bear cat (anag.) (7)
- 2 Purpose (9)
- 3 Flowery (6)
- 4 Sturdy (6)
- 5 Retract (8)
- 6 Horse training (8)
- 7 Build (5)
- 9 Go round (4)
- 14 Washerwoman (9)
- 15 Make dirty (8)
- 16 Nominator (8)
- 17 Follow (4)
- 19 Elapsed (anag.) (7)
- 20 Slovenly (6)
- 21 Short sleep (6)
- 23 Military cooking-pail (5)



SCRIBBLE HERE



SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS No16

ACROSS: 1 Chief 4 Saw-edged 8 Bottom of the sea 10 Ramsacked 11 Set-up 12 Twin 13 Pangolin 17 Canberra 18 Jump 22 Madam 24 Pamphlete 25 Expressiveness 26 Lethargy 27 Posed. **DOWN: 1 Cabaret 5 Throat 6 Client 2 Converge 3 Unzipper 7 Censuring 13 Drink 14 Cashpoint 16 Limiting 18 Herb-beer 19 Alekhyde 20 Abscond 22 Ealing 25 Onto.**

QUICK SOLUTIONS No16

ACROSS: 8 Allowance 9 Hinge 10 Groveler 11 Reins 12 Cartilage-paper 15 Aisle 17 Neigh 19 Aden 21 Humpback bridge 23 Optic 24 Bombshell 26 Ninon 27 Attendant. **DOWN: 1 Cabaret 5 Throat 6 Client 2 Converge 3 Unzipper 7 Censuring 13 Drink 14 Cashpoint 16 Limiting 18 Herb-beer 19 Alekhyde 20 Abscond 22 Ealing 25 Onto.**

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TO BOOK YOUR VISIT OR OBTAIN A PROSPECTUS CONTACT:

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

YOUR boss may not approve of your instinctive approach to work. It's better to follow procedure than hunches this week. Working with a government agency, hospital, or university could prove very lucky for you. You've got a talent for cutting through red tape. Last minute Christmas arrangements have to be finalised now.



TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

IT might be the season of goodwill but you may not get much of it this week. People may resent the opportunities that are being presented to. It's probably best to keep your worries to yourself. Be sure to attend to little details before taking a trip. Check your passport, pack in advance, and brush up on the native language.



LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

RELATIVES may not approve of your actions so be prepared for opposition. A health breakthrough gives you renewed energy to work and travel. You've got to distance yourself from people and activities that sap your energy. Beware of promising more than you can deliver to a colleague. It's best to make conservative estimates.



SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

IT'S hard to reason with a relative who is being utterly impractical. You may have to bring them back to earth with a bump, if only to make them aware of some unpleasant realities. Teaching, writing, and lecturing opportunities could help you gain fame and fortune in 2008. An unexpected message or greeting arrives soon.



PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

DON'T assume you know more about a topic than a quiet, mild-mannered person. It may be wise to heed friends' warnings, particularly with regard to a dangerous sport or hobby. Working as a member of a team could bring you great luck. Don't be surprised if you're asked to take the lead in the Christmas capers.



GEMINI (May 22 - Jun 22)

DON'T get touchy with colleagues this week. A teasing taunt might seem hurtful, but is actually made with great affection. Respecting a friend's feelings is better than satisfying your own desires. A source of income could come to a close, making you glad you tightened the purse strings. Heed an older relative's advice about travel



VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

COLLEAGUES may not be as helpful as you'd like this week. A child's temper tantrum could test your temper, prompting you to put them straight in a public place. Working on art projects can help keep your spirits up because exercising your imagination allows you to find creative ways to handle the down times.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21)

BEWARE of saying things you don't mean or you could be branded a hypocrite. A lover or business partner may try to pressure you into spending money you don't have. Turn a deaf ear to these manipulative remarks. Adopt a more cautious attitude toward finances throughout 2008. Put your money into savings.



ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

SPENDING more time at home is important, particularly if you're going to enjoy the festive season. Turn off your mobile and focus on making decorations, preparing food, and entertaining friends. Your employer may not be happy with your decision to focus on family, but you've got to maintain firm boundaries or you'll be continually on call.



CANCER (Jun 23 - Jul 23)

ALTHOUGH expensive luxuries tempt you from every shop you need to stay strong. This week, you need to go out of your way to make your nearest and dearest happy, even if it means setting your own agenda aside. Ironically, demonstrating a cooperative attitude will work in your favour, allowing you to get what you want.



LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

BEING overly indulgent with a child or lover could lead to trouble. An authority figure will press you to make a decision before you are ready to do so. Err on the side of safety. Relatives could club together to buy you a wonderful surprise gift. You may be torn between work and family. Christmas is no time to focus on professional matters.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20)

NEITHER a lender nor a borrower be over the festive season. A loved one's passionate appeal may not sit well with you. You prefer to approach problems with cool detachment. Your ability to exhibit grace under fire could result in an exciting opportunity to travel or study abroad. This trip could prove a turning point in a close relationship.

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No15

EASY

4	5	6	8	7	9			
		9			6			
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	8				3	2	4	7
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HARD

2			6	3				
7				5				
	5	3			8			
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9			2				4	
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				9				7
		4		1				2

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

Last week's solutions

EASY

2	8	9	4	1	3	5	7	6
6	1	5	7	2	8	9	3	4
4	7	3	6	5	9	2	8	1
7	5	4	8	6	1	3	9	2
1	9	2	3	7	4	6	5	8
8	3	6	5	9	2	4	1	7
3	2	7	1	4	5	8	6	9
5	4	1	9	8	6	7	2	3
9	6	8	2	3	7	1	4	5

HARD

4	9	2	8	6	5	1	3	7
8	7	6	9	1	3	4	2	5
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9	3	8	1	7	6	2	5	4
2	4	7	3	5	8	9	6	1
5	6	1	2	9	4	7	8	3
7	2	9	5	8	1	3	4	6
3	8	4	6	2	7	5	1	9
6	1	5	4	3	9	8	7	2

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PICK OF THE WEEKEND

BBC one

SATURDAY: JOSEPH - THE WINNER'S STORY (5pm): Documentary charting the year of Lee Mead following his win in the Any Dream Will Do talent contest.

SUNDAY: THE SHADOW IN THE NORTH (8.55pm): One-off drama adaptation of Philip Pullman's novel as Sally Lockhart looks to prove the richest man in Europe is guilty of corruption and fraud.

BBC TWO

SATURDAY: TITANIC (6pm): Kate Winslet and Leonardo Di Caprio star in the multi-Oscar winning movie of the fateful first - and final - journey of the doomed luxury liner.

SUNDAY: EXTRAS (9pm): Ricky Gervais, Stephen Merchant and Shaun Williamson return for a special one-off episode following Andy Millman's rise to fame.

itv

SATURDAY: PRIME SUSPECT (10pm): Helen Mirren's award-winning drama returns for a two-hour slice of crime fighting as Tennison looks to track down suspect Curtis Flynn.

SUNDAY: JK ROWLING - A YEAR IN THE LIFE (7pm): The author of the phenomenally successful Harry Potter books allows the cameras to follow her in the year the final book was published in the seven-volume series.

4

SATURDAY: DEAL OR NO DEAL - CHRISTMAS STAR (8.20pm): Noel Edmonds hosts a special festive edition of the hit show, featuring contestants who work for charities.

SUNDAY: THE BIG FAT QUIZ OF THE YEAR 2007 (9pm): Jimmy Carr presents the battle between celebrity teams featuring Russell Brand, Noel Fielding, Rob Brydon and Jonathan Ross plus a host of other celebs.

five

SATURDAY: FLUKE (4.25pm): Adaptation of James Herbert's bestseller charting the touching tale of a young father killed in a car crash who is reincarnated as a dog and seeks out his family.

SUNDAY: ANNIE (6pm): It wouldn't be Xmas without a dollop of the classic musical starring Albert Finney - and the adaptation of the Broadway stage musical.

Christmas telly to feast your eyes on

BY CHRIS THOMSON

IF the family are driving you nuts, and the nuts are driving you crazy, at least there is some top film entertainment on the small screen this festive season to bring a cease-fire to hostilities.

Every day brings with it a host of films - many making their terrestrial TV premieres - with a little bit of everything for young and old. And for those with digital TV the choice grows ever wider, with Sky rolling out a host of blockbuster films to satisfy subscribers.

So what can you feast your eyes on as you polish off the last of the turkey and trimmings?

Family films

The explosion in animated movies has seen some classics and some stinkers... but today one of the very best is rolled out as Pixar's **Monsters Inc** (BBC1 5.35pm, Dec 26) takes to your TV set. Featuring the vocal talents of Billy Crystal and John Goodman the story and the laugh lines are both water tight.

An American Tail (Channel 4, 11.30am, Dec 26) is another animated success from the old-school of cartoons, while **Happy Feet** (Sky Premiere, 6pm, Dec 27) is worth a look too.

One film which still manages to pack an almighty emotional punch is **ET: The Extra Terrestrial** (ITV1, 4.25pm, Dec 27). A truly magical couple of hours, you're a hard person indeed if you don't shed a tear - even 25 years on from its general release.

For fans of classic BBC comedy it would be wrong to over-look the frequently dismissed big-screen version of **Dad's Army** (BBC2, 6.30pm, Dec 28). The sets, the lack of laughter



FOR ALL THE FAMILY: Monsters Inc, Boxing Day

track, and the music, make it feel unfamiliar, but there remains some great lines and wonderful performances.

Talking of laughter, who can resist **Home Alone 2: Lost in New York** (6.50pm, Channel 4, Dec 28)? Macaulay Culkin is once again stranded and left to battle Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern's thieves and it remains a festive frenzy of slapstick and heart-warming sentiment.

Blockbusters

Moonraker (3pm, ITV1, Dec 26) is one of Bond's more bizarre adventures, at Roger Moore hams it up in a film clearly influenced by the Star Wars explosion. Moore returns in **For Your Eyes Only** (2.05pm, ITV1, Dec 27) and he's back again for **Octopussy** (2.30pm, ITV1, Dec 28).

For those with Sky Movies, you can judge for yourself whether Daniel Craig was deserving of the plaudits for his Bond, with **Casino Royale** (6pm, Sky Premiere, Dec 26).

Mission: Impossible 3 (9pm, Sky

Action/Thriller, Dec 28) sees Tom Cruise continue the secret agent theme in the latest outing for Ethan Hunt and his chums.

The most successful blockbuster, **Titanic** (6pm, BBC2, Dec 29), is a sumptuous feast, while the budget was clearly blown on the stellar cast for **Meet the Fockers** (8.30pm, BBC1, Dec 28) - the not-quite-as-funny-as-the-original sequel to *Meet the Parents*. Dustin Hoffman goes head-to-head with Robert de Niro in a big gun battle for laughs, with Barbara Streisand and Ben Stiller doing a fine job too.

Comedy

Keeping with the funny theme, the home-grown **Hot Fuzz** (8pm, Sky Premiere, Dec 29) is pretty much essential viewing. Coming from the team that delivered the genuinely hilarious *Shaun of the Dead*, Simon Pegg and Nick Frost are reunited to do battle with the badies in a quiet English village.

A rather more gentle affair is **Three Men and a Baby** (1.15pm, BBC1, Dec 29) which takes three of the Eighties biggest stars - Tom Selleck, Steve Guttenberg and Ted Danson - and presents their bachelor lifestyles with a small challenge in the shape of a baby. Sequel, **Three Men and a Little Lady** (11.25am, BBC1, Dec 31) is still fun, but less funny.

So save yourself for the New Year's Eve double-whammy of two greats. **Planes, Trains and Automobiles** (11.50pm, Channel 4, Dec 31) sees Steve Martin and John Candy in cracking form as they make a tortuous journey home for Thanksgiving.

But it is earlier in the evening when surely the most consistently amusing film of all time gets its annual airing. Monty Python's **Life of Brian** (9pm, Channel 4, Dec 31) may be close to 20 years old, but it's cutting humour and set-pieces remain an absolute joy to behold. Surely the perfect way to see out 2007?

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A coveted holiday destination

BY EMMA POMFRET

IT WAS our first night in Croatia and in the perfect setting of a waterfront restaurant I discovered the delights of Dentex.

Although it sounds like a mouthwash, Dentex is a famously tasty fish caught in shoals in the deep blue waters off Dubrovnik. Croatians call it the Zubatec, or "King of the Adriatic" and now it stared at me from a colourful plate in all its razor-fanged glory.

Although the locals had been singing its praises since we arrived, nothing quite prepared me for the distinctive meaty yet delicate lemony taste, and at barely £7 for a huge portion, we ate it almost every night.

To be perfectly honest, before I set foot on Croatian soil, I had no idea what the local cuisine would be like but, luckily, the sheer variety of European dishes ranging from fresh fish to Buzara – boiled scampi in a rich wine sauce – turned out to be a pleasant surprise.

Of course, it's not only the fantastic food and typically Mediterranean summer lifestyle which makes Croatia the tourist destination of the moment.

With Spain's coastline often over-crowded, Italy's verging on extortionate, and the French Med a little cliquey, it's little wonder this tiny croissant-shaped country is fast becoming Europe's most coveted holiday hot spot.

With miles of pristine beaches framed by dramatic mountains and impossibly clear Adriatic waters, more than a thousand picture-



BREATHTAKING: Stunning countryside surrounds picturesque towns wherever you look in Croatia

esque islands ripe for hopping, and town upon ancient town bursting with faded Habsburg grandeur and dazzling Byzantine churches, Croatia provides a fascinating experience for any visitor.

Croatia's current success marks a dramatic revival from the early 1990s when the then Yugoslavia experienced its grim civil war.

For the more observant traveller scattered remnants of the war in the shape of derelict, burnt out villages can still be spotted in

remote inland parts of northern Dalmatia but, for the most part, there is no tangible reminder of the conflict and Croatia is right back where it belongs on the holiday map.

We had landed in Croatia's second-largest city, Split, on the southern coast and made a quick pit stop to visit the stunning third century Diocletian Palace in the old town, before heading off for a two-hour drive through the picturesque Makarska Riviera and on towards the pretty seaside resort of Tucepi.

In the heart of historic Dalmatia, the Tucepi coastline is an unbroken series of beautiful clean beaches, bordered on one side by the transparent turquoise sea and on the other by a green necklace of pine forests, olive groves, blossoming vineyards and cool glades.

Our base was the friendly four star Afrodita Village hotel, set on the leafy slopes of Mount Biokovo. It boasts comfortable, airy apartments, a huge swimming pool and an amazing breakfast buffet – and the bonus of being only a few seconds away from a long stretch of pristine pebble beach.

If you fancy getting out and about on foot one day, it's a relatively easy hour-long walk along Tucepi's rugged coast to the lovely old town of Makarska and a well-deserved cold beer or home-made ice-cream on the palm-fringed promenade, where trendy cafes, bars and boutiques overlook the sunny harbour.

Wherever you go in Croatia, you're guaranteed a wonderful experience hard to match anywhere else in Europe. Just try to get there before everyone else realises what they're missing!

FACT FILE:

Time difference	UK + one hour
Currency	Kuna approx 10.17 to £1
Capital	Zagreb
Region airport	4.5 million
Language	Croatian
Religion	Roman Catholic
Climate	Mediterranean along the coast

Holiday details

Emma Pomfret was a guest of Thomas Cook Travel, which offers seven night half-board packages at the four star Afrodita Village in Tucepi from £328 per person (two sharing) in May 2008, including flights ex-Gatwick with Thomas Cook Airlines.

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BARHAM

A spacious three bedroom traditional cottage, finish in flint, situated in an idyllic village setting. This property has been fully modernised and is pleasingly presented. Internal viewing is highly recommended!

Guide Price - £510,000



RAMSGATE

A very charming modern 3 bedroom semi detached family home. The accommodation comprises sitting room, kitchen, utility room and a family bathroom. This property also benefits from a paddock with 2 stables, a tack room and a field shelter.

Guide Price - £310,000



SHEPHERDSWELL

A very well maintained two storey family home with three bedrooms, spacious entrance hall plus porch, kitchen plus utility, cloakroom, family bathroom and spacious lounge diner. The twin garage and off road parking are ideal. Full gas fired central heating and full double glazed windows.

Guide Price - £230,000



HAMSTREET

A three bedroom terraced property in the village of Hamstreet in need of modernisation. A very pleasing mid terrace property with good size front and rear gardens. The property is in need of redecoration and the purchaser may wish to modernise and improve.

Guide Price - £180,000



CHARING

An impressive five bedroom family home situated in the village of Charing. The property also benefits from Sitting Room, Breakfast Room, Study, Kitchen, Utility Room and Dining Room.

Guide Price - £499,950



HAMSTREET

A substantial 5 bedroom modern village home with accommodation over 3 floors. The location is extremely pleasant and combines good access to the Hamstreet Station, school, shop/post office, dentist, and other facilities. Fully double glazed and central heated with pleasing gardens.

Guide Price - £385,000

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HAMSTREET

An attractive 3 bedroom, one en suite, family home situated close to the centre of the village. The accommodation comprises Sitting Room, Farmhouse Kitchen, Cloakroom and Family Bathroom. This property also benefits from front and rear gardens mainly laid to lawn with trees and shrubs.

Guide Price - £335,000



TEMPLE EWELL

A Georgian style house, constructed over 3 floors with pleasing village outlooks. Recently renovated the style and grace of the house are noticeable and the luxury bathroom and the stylish kitchen and much to the well proportioned, detailed and spacious accommodation.

Guide Price - £245,000



APPLEDORE

A modern semi detached house situated in the sought after location of Appledore. The accommodation comprises of 2 bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen and bathroom. Garden and off road parking.

Guide Price - £200,000



ST NICHOLAS AT WADE

A four bedroomed equestrian property situated to the village St Nicholas at Wade. The four bedrooms are all of good size and at the rear of the property there are stables approximately three acres (unmeasured) of pasture land all with separate access of the nearby lane.

Guide Price - £425,000



HAMSTREET

A charming spacious, modern house set in mature gardens with feature pond. This property is in good order and has many features including exposed beams. The accommodation includes of 4 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, utility room, conservatory, cloak room, office and family bathroom.

Guide Price - £390,000



OSPRINGE

A very charming 3 bedroom semi-detached cottage. The cottage enjoys large gardens and is approached over a drive. Set away from the road and with very attractive outlooks. Garden shed and fenced boundaries. Mature trees and shrubs. Five-bar gates. An outstanding opportunity.

Guide Price - £340,000

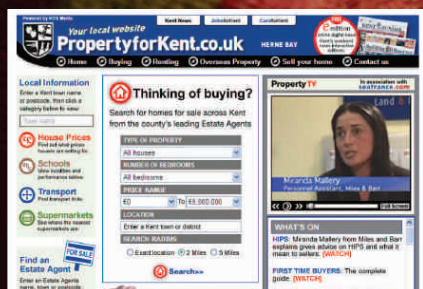


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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

HONDA JAZZ



HONDA's Jazz has definitely hit the right note and won a host of awards. Beware early examples, which were too firmly sprung for some tastes, but later models are good to drive and better to ride while retaining cheeky looks and versatile seating. The range lacks a diesel, but offers a continuously variable automatic gearbox (CVT) option with pre-selected positions that are reassuring to use, while bringing all the benefits of a CVT auto's better fuel consumption.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MITSUBISHI COLT



MITSUBISHI was starved of a decent entry level car for years, but the five-door Colt – the three-door spin-off is lower and pitched as a sporty hatchback – is space-efficient, stylish inside and out and offered with a good range of engines, including a diesel. It is a good car to drive too even if tight handling comes at the expense of a slightly harsh ride. Reliability is excellent and it offers some of the best value-for-money second-hand buys in the sector.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MAZDA 2



MAZDA has risen from the dead in recent years and now boasts one of the most vibrant car ranges on the market. The original '2' derived from the best-selling Ford Fiesta, so it was one of the top superminis to drive and one of the roomiest, without looking outlandishly tall. Nevertheless, it proved a hard sell for dealers and has been replaced by a low slung sportier number – making used prices for the first generation car even more attractive.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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(X) Renault Laguna Dynamique 1.8 Red, 74,000 miles, e/w, c/l, CD player £3299.00



(R) VW Golf Convertible 1.8, Red, 74,000 miles, e/w, c/l, CD player £3200.00



(S) Mercedes CLK 230 Kompressor Sport Coupe Auto, Met Blue, very leather interior, low mileage 57,000 with service history £6699.00



(51) Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi, 5 door in red, Usual SXi extras, Nice little car NOW £2999.00.



(02) Citroen Xsara Picasso SX 2.0 HDi in silver blue metallic Good order ideal family car in diesel. NOW £4299.00

- (51) Volvo V370 2.4 SE Estate, Met Blue, Leather trim£5500.00
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- (52) Vauxhall Vectra Elegance 1.8 (new shape) Red, Top of range lovely car.NOW £3599.00
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- (51) Peugeot 106 Xn Zest silver, 50,000 miles£2999.00
- (02) Vauxhall Vectra 2.2 CDX Met blue (old shape), Top of range. low miles£2999.00
- (03) Peugeot 106 Independence Silver, P/S, Sunroof£2899.00
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- (W) Peugeot 106 Zest 3 Blue, p/steering, e/windows, c/l, s/roof£2299.00
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- (K) Vauxhall Astra Saloon Maroon, 1.4, 70,000 Miles, full MOT£499.00

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A4, 2.4 sport cabriolet auto, 2003, gold met with black leather, 88000 miles, £13950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

A4, 3.2 f1 quattro tip auto, 2006, blue metallic with beige pearl nappa leather, 14600 miles, £24950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

A4, 2.5 Quattro Sport 6 speed manual, 2003, grey with grey leather, 85000 miles, £5995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

CONTINENTAL GT, 2005, arena red metallic with saddle leather interior, 28000 miles, £54950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 320i 2171cc 2 door, 2000, cd player abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels leather upholstery alarm driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering mileage verified immobiliser cruise control electric windows, met blue, 60000 miles, £3995, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290890 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

KALOS, 1.4 SX 5dr, 11/03/2005, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, red, 17094 miles, £4999, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4 SX, 24637, finished in poly silver with grey interior manual, grey, 0 miles, £5995, Caffyns Turnbridge Wells Vauchal, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.2 S, 384639, finished in ruby red with red interior manual, red, 1000 miles, £5295, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LACETTI, Sport 1.8, 2004, silver, 23612 miles, £5995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 1.0 A, 388639, finished in poly silver with black interior manual, black, 1000 miles, £5695, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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NEON, 2.0 LXI, 1995 (n), automatic, 5 door saloon, metallic green coachwork with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, new mot, ew x 4, em, pas, air bags, original hi-fi, only 1 owner from new. Metallic green, low mileage miles, £1695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 242444 (TRADE)

NEON, Le Auto, e051 reu, central locking, cd player, radio, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric mirrors, twin air bags, cloth upholstery, power steering, abs, black, 32000 miles, £2995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CITROEN

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C2, 1.4i Cool 3dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, arcile steel, 1000 miles, £7995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

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C2, 1.1i Cool 3dr, 1.1i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, sunshine yellow, 1000 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i SX 5dr, 2006, black, 4322 miles, £7295, Wilmoth Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i Cool SX, special edition, arcile steel, 1000 miles, £5395, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

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DAEWOO NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot July 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 637463 (TRADE)

KALOS, 2004, 3x3 point rear seat belts abs body coloured bumpers cloth seat trim front head restraints heated door mirrors immobiliser leather cloth seat anchor points pas passenger airbag rear wiper remote central locking side airbags steel wheels steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, silver, 20380 miles, £3995, WJ King Vauchal, Woolwich, 020 8854 8161 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 1.6, 25637, finished in mint green with black interior manual, black, 0 miles, £4995, Caffyns Turnbridge Wells Vauchal, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LANOS, 1.4 S Hatchback 3dr 1349cc, w583vfm, new mot very clean cheap tax & insurance, green, 33935 miles, £1495.00, DCD Autos, Ashford, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

MATIZ, Extra 1, finished in blue with black interior manual, black, 2000 miles, £3995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 0.8, finished in blue with interior manual, blue, 17000 miles, £2995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO, 1.9 MultiJet 16v 150 Sport, 2915256, choice of colours, 0 miles, £13795, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

CROMA, 1.9 16v MultiJet Eleganza, 52526, choice of colours, 0 miles, £12033, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.4 Active, 62256, choice of colours, 0 miles, £7995, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.3 16v MultiJet Active, 63256, choice of colours, 0 miles, £5995, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.9 MultiJet 120 Family, 64256, choice of colours, 0 miles, £5995, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.9 MultiJet Dynamic 105, 65256, choice of colours, 0 miles, £3795, Thames Group Turnbridge Wells, Turnbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 16v Dynamic 5dr Auto, remote central locking, alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, radio, trip computer, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, grey, 18300 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 Active Sport 3dr, 30/05/2006, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 21995 miles, £5199, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 992321 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 8v Dynamic 3dr, en542zu, abs, twin air bags, immobiliser, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, colour coded body, colour coded interior, cloth upholstery, blue, 13000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 85112 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX, JTD 1.9 3dr, nov 2001 two previous keepers, power steering, central locking, electric windows, 5 speed gearbox, part service history, radio/cassette, cd, autochanger, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, sunroof, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels, gold metallic, 42,000 miles, £3,795, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 8v Dynamic 3dr, en542zu, abs, twin air bags, immobiliser, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, colour coded body, colour coded interior, cloth upholstery, blue, 13000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 85112 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX, JTD 1.9 3dr, nov 2001 two previous keepers, power steering, central locking, electric windows, 5 speed gearbox, part service history, radio/cassette, cd, autochanger, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, sunroof, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels, gold metallic, 42,000 miles, £3,795, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 8v Dynamic 3dr, en542zu, abs, twin air bags, immobiliser, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, colour coded body, colour coded interior, cloth upholstery, blue, 13000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 85112 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2 8v Dynamic 3dr, en542zu, abs, twin air bags, immobiliser, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, colour coded body, colour coded interior, cloth upholstery, blue, 13000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 85112 (TRADE)

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PUNTO, 1.2 8v Dynamic 3dr, en542zu, abs, twin air bags, immobiliser, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, colour coded body, colour coded interior, cloth upholstery, blue, 13000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 85112 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style Climate, 2007, moonstust silver, 0 miles, £7995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 LX, 2002, moonstust silver, 54187 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 3dr (2001 - 2004), 05/10/2004, cd player abs alarm electric windows, black, 25809 miles, £5990, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate Pack] (2005 - 2007), 19/02/2007, cd player abs electric windows, blue, 11301 miles, £3299, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate Pack] (2005 - 2007), 23/01/2007, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 13248 miles, £3299, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [115] [Climate Pack] (2005 - 2007), 18/03/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, silver, 24662 miles, £2999, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate Pack] (2005 - 2007), 03/06/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 35558 miles, £7699, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [Euro 4] [Climate Pack] (2005 - 2007), 28/02/2007, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering electric windows, silver, 17564 miles, £10499, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

KA, Sport, 2004, purple, 21330 miles, £5495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3 Hatchback 3dr 1299cc (2003), 53, red, 14,000 miles, £2495, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

KA, Style, 2007, tango, 0 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Design, 2005, tonic, 16000 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Style 1.3i, 2006, panther black with charcoal special trim, 25000 miles, £3995, UM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

KA, Style Climate, 2006, moonstust silver, 0 miles, £5495, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Style, 2007, amethyst, 0 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Style [70] 3dr [Climate] (2006 -), 05/12/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 2647 miles, £5989, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2002, met black, 55660 miles, £2795, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, Tourer 2.2 Sport, 128649, honda accord tourer 2.2 sport sal nav honda honda Turnbridge Wells drake & fletcher alabaster silver, 2007, 6457 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £19450, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Turnbridge Wells, 0845 130 4286 (TRADE)

ISUZU

TROOPER, Swb DT Light 4x4 Utility, a053 mwy, central locking, electric front windows, cloth upholstery, cd player, radio, air conditioning, rear wash/wipe, power steering, head restraints, 4x4, rear seats, red, 68200 miles, £2695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, metallic paintwork, 16" alloys, red, 90000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, metallic paintwork, 16" alloys, red, 90000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, metallic paintwork, 16" alloys, red, 90000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, metallic paintwork, 16" alloys, red, 90000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

LEXUS

LS, 200 SE, 253461, remote alarm, alcantara leather, head restraints, colour coded body, anti-theft system, electric front windows, 17" alloys, blue, 69000 miles, £8499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, Lxi 5dr, 5504079, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, rear spoiler, central locking, height adjustable seat, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, red, 30000 miles, £4485, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

230 Sport Kompressor, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior full sport pack, black/blue, 57, 000 miles, £6699.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C180 Classic 4dr, 01/02/2002, abs driver airbag immobiliser electric windows, blue, 49920 miles, £7499, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

C CLASS, C200K Avantgarde SE 4dr, Auto, abs, silver, 20500 miles, £11999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

MG

TF, 135 Sprint, 277649, mg tf 135 sprint maza maza Maidstone drake & fletcher silver, 2000, manual, petrol, 2 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £5889, Drake and Fletcher Mazda, Maidstone, 0845 130 3275 (TRADE)

KA, Sport, 2004, purple, 21330 miles, £5495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3 Hatchback 3dr 1299cc (2003), 53, red, 14,000 miles, £2495, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

KA, Style, 2007, tango, 0 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Design, 2005, tonic, 16000 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Style 1.3i, 2006, panther black with charcoal special trim, 25000 miles, £3995, UM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

KA, Style Climate, 2006, moonstust silver, 0 miles, £5495, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, Style, 2007, amethyst, 0 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Style [70] 3dr [Climate] (2006 -), 05/12/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 2647 miles, £5989, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2002, met black, 55660 miles, £2795, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

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XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, metallic paintwork, 16" alloys, red, 90000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

XJ-S 4.0 Sports, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, air conditioning, air bag, abs, electric windows, stereo, electric

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- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
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- NOT FOR PROFIT, CHARITIES
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- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments 34-36

achievement development experience employability

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, phase 2 of which completes at the end of 2007. We are now developing the plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Estate & Building Services Manager

37 hrs per week, salary: £44,149 - £49,875 per annum Post ref: EBSM1/KoS
Interview Date: Tuesday 22 January 2008.

We are seeking an experienced and talented individual to ensure that College sites are fully utilised, maintained and enhanced, to provide an optimum learning and working environment for all users. You will have the opportunity to produce, update and develop the College's property and accommodation strategies, and will prepare maintenance and small buildings works programmes and schedules. You will lead on health and safety strategy and policy, and ensure the provision and maintenance of effective fire precautions, security systems and safety arrangements. Assisting the Director of Finance and Corporate Services in the preparation of relevant capital and revenue budgets, you will also manage the department's budgets and service contracts, and line manage the Estates team. You will develop and manage the College's energy management policy, advise on the use of professional services in connection with estates services, and will take responsibility for buildings & grounds maintenance and security for the insurance of the premises and assets.

To be successful, you will have a relevant professional qualification such as RICS, RIBA, MBIFM, or MIMechE, as well as professional qualifications in the area of Estates Management. In addition, you will be able to demonstrate considerable and successful estates management experience. You will have demonstrable experience of managing change with a commitment to continuous improvement, as well as having direct experience of line managing staff, budgets and resource management.

Computer literate, with analytical & evaluation skills, you will have the ability to assess the future financial viability of projects and development opportunities, have a high level of interpersonal skills and the ability to influence and work with colleagues across the College.

You will also have a commitment to educational and training values, and to Equal Opportunities.

achievement development experience employability

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CAPITAL PROJECT MANAGER

37 hrs per week, salary: c£70,000 per annum Post ref: CPM1/KoS

We are seeking an experienced and talented individual to take responsibility for the strategic and general management of the redevelopment project, ensuring that it is delivered on time, within budget, and in accordance with the design brief and targets. Leading the project on behalf of the College, you will direct, co-ordinate and supervise the project in association with the College's Senior Management Team, Project Team and consultants. Responsible for ensuring that the overall project programme can be approved by the Corporation and all activities are completed within defined parameters, you will also prepare the Estates Working Party papers in liaison with the Principal and the Clerk to the Corporation. You will recommend and secure approval for any modifications of variation to the agreed brief, and will advise the Corporation on overall risk and exposure through the Capital programme. You will be responsible for all aspects of financial management in liaison with the College's Director of Finance and Corporate Services, including monitoring of cashflow against College plans, all forms of asset management, including tenders, procurement and leasing options, and achieving best value in line with LSC guidelines.

To be successful, you will have a closely relevant professional qualification, such as a Postgraduate qualification in project management, or equivalent experience of public sector construction. In addition, you will be able to demonstrate detailed understanding of the financial and contractual management of construction projects, and the ability to think strategically to lead and advocate on complex projects. You will also have negotiation skills, and the ability to work to deadlines and to lead and motivate a team.

Computer literate, with analytical & evaluation skills, you will have the ability to assess the future financial viability of projects and development opportunities, a high level of communication and interpersonal skills, and the ability to influence and work with colleagues across the College.

You will also have a commitment to educational and training values, and to Equal Opportunities.

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above post is 15 January 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Close to City Centre
- Proximity to main bus/train stations
- Staff discount scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

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You'll manage a team of technicians responsible for the MOT and service programmes of our fleet. It will be down to you to ensure that repairs are carried out cost-effectively without compromising quality. The role will involve liaising with other departments to schedule maintenance activity, working closely with our Workshop Manager to maintain accurate records and sourcing parts from suppliers.

An experienced mechanic with City and Guilds 1, 2, 3 Vehicle Technician or equivalent, CITB/City and Guilds Refrigeration/Gas Handling, IRTEC and

LGV C+E driving licence, you'll be a proven team manager who can lead by example. A professional commercial vehicle engineering qualification (to MIRTE level) is also essential, as are good interpersonal and IT skills.

As a Partner in our business, you can look forward to an excellent profit sharing scheme, which this year was equivalent to nine weeks' pay. We also offer discounts in Waitrose and John Lewis stores, pension scheme, free life assurance, subsidised educational, leisure and sporting activities, subsidised meals and five weeks' holiday after three years' service.

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Faculty Head Engineering & Construction

37 hrs per week, salary no less than £40,622 per annum Post Ref: FHEC1/KoS

We are seeking an individual of the highest calibre to help achieve our goal of being one of the best FE College by 2010.

You will be responsible for the operational delivery of the strategic plan within the Engineering & Construction Faculty, and will ensure a quality provision and suitable curriculum development to aid the learner experience. You will also play a key role in contributing to the development of the College's strategic & development plans, and will lead and inspire a team of Section Managers.






As a College we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of both young people and vulnerable adults, and the promotion of this will form an integral part of your role.

You will have significant experience in education leadership and people management, and will have the leadership skills to set the highest possible standards, both within your Faculty and throughout the College. In return, we will offer you the rewards and support you would expect at such a senior level.

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above post is 15 January 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include

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Marketing and Communications Manager

37 hrs per week, salary: £36,188 per annum Post Ref: 0806/KoS

We are seeking an experienced and talented individual to take responsibility for the strategic and general management of the college's marketing and communications, to establish, lead and manage a multi-disciplinary marketing and communications team; providing strategic vision and direction to ensure that the college's goals are met.

You will lead in the development, implementation and evaluation of a range of communications and marketing projects including events, campaigns and consultations.

The strategy you develop will be informed by thorough market and competitor research. You will be responsible for analysing and reporting to the Senior Management Team on the findings of this research and on campaign effectiveness and progress against budget and targets.

The college's internal communications are a key element of this role as the college strives to "Be the best college in the South East". Your team will commission, write, edit, proof read and coordinate internal and external publications, leaflets and promotional materials. Your experience of working with local, regional and national media will be essential in building and communicating the college's brand values and identity through a proactive media and public relations strategy.

This post is a senior role within the college structure and you will be required to provide reputation management advice and media advice to senior managers.

To be successful, you will have a closely relevant professional qualification, and experience of leading a marketing and communications team.






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For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
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To apply/more information

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Warren Wood community Primary School and language unit

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Kent ME1 2UR

Telephone - (01634) 337227

Email trimk001@medway.org.uk

Hoo St Werburgh Primary School & Marlborough Centre

KS2 Teacher

Salary: MPS/UPS

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Term of contract: To cover maternity leave

Required From: January 2008

Closing date: 3 January 2008

To apply/more information

Jo Trickett, Headteacher

Hoo St Werburgh Primary school & Marlborough Centre

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Email office@hoo-st-werburgh.medway.sch.uk

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Required From: 25 February 2008

Closing date: 10 January 2008

To apply/more information

Linda Lowrey, Headteacher

Thames View Junior School

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Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check



Sure Start Children's Centres are at the heart of the Government's strategy to give every child the very best start in life.

Currently, there are 22 Sure Start Children's Centres across Kent, offering children under five and their families access to services and support that includes high-quality early education and day care, family support and health services, training and job information. Building on this significant success, Kent County Council is committed to opening a further 52 centres between now and the end of 2008.

We are now looking for enthusiastic and highly motivated people who can contribute to making a positive impact for children, families and their communities.

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Gravesham (ref CFE/07/0490)

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Tonbridge & Malling

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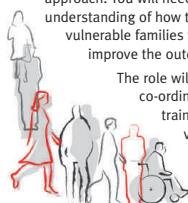
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(ref CFE/07/0495)

We are seeking to recruit Community Involvement Workers to work in a number of Children's Centres across Kent. The successful candidates will work as part of multi-agency teams, raising awareness in the community about the range of services on offer in the centres. For those families who do not use the Children's Centres, you will provide important information and access to services. You will ensure that the views of children and their families and those of the wider community are sought and included in the development of services in the Children's Centres.

You will need to have strong interpersonal skills with an enthusiastic, tactful and flexible approach. You will need to demonstrate a clear understanding of how to support the most vulnerable families to access services to improve the outcomes for children.



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Maidstone (ref CFE/07/0486)

Ashford (ref CFE/07/0487)

Swale (ref CFE/07/0488)

We are seeking to appoint Children's Centre Managers in a number of Children's Centres across Kent. You will need to lead an integrated team to work in partnership with parents and carers and a range of partners and organisations across Kent to meet the specific needs of children under five and their families.

With a degree, or equivalent qualification in health, social work, education, community work, childcare or a similar field, you must be able to lead a multi-agency service, demonstrating excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Successful candidates will have the National Professional Qualification in Integrated Centre Leadership or be willing to work towards this qualification.

Both posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To find out more please contact Stacey Joyce on 01622 626685 or email: stacey.joyce@kent.gov.uk

For an application pack, please contact Kym Hobson on 01622 605788 or email: kym.hobson@kent.gov.uk quoting the appropriate reference.

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LOOKING FORWARD: Ashford's Benn Barham hopes to secure his first Tour victory in 2008, which could springboard him to the PGA Tour, to compete with Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh

Benn aims to follow his American dream

GOLF

BY TOM HOWARD

GOLFER Benn Barham believes he still has what it takes to get onto the lucrative PGA Tour.

Barham had his most successful year on the European Tour this year, finishing 89th on the order of merit. En route to his best finish in eight years, he secured seventh place in

Madrid and tied ninth in the BMW International Open.

Next year, Barham hopes to secure his maiden win on the tour and finish in the top 60 so he can qualify for the prestigious end of season Volvo Masters, won by Justin Rose in November.

Barham, from Ashford, said: "To do that I will need to earn at least a half a million euros in prize money. One of my biggest aims is to win a tournament this season."

"Finishing in the top ten is a good standard, but winning is what everyone wants."

Barham believes he still has what it takes to make a breakthrough on the American PGA Tour where the likes of golf superstars Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh ply their trade.

A hopeful Barham said: "Golfers do not reach their peak until their mid-30s. I am 32 now and have not given up the ghost. I think my game is still progressing. I would love to get the chance to play at the highest level on the PGA Tour, but the European Tour is not too far behind the PGA."

He returns to European Tour action in the Abu Dhabi Championship on January 17.

Lovell records first win as Town boss

FOOTBALL

Kingstonian 1
Ashford Town 2

ASHFORD Town's search for a win under new boss Steve Lovell is finally at an end after a morale-boosting away win at high-flying Kingstonian.

The win has been a long time coming for the Nuts and Bolts and was their first since Clive Walker's last game in charge against Whitstable Town in October.

A first-half strike from Paul Jones set Ashford on their way, when he broke through the Kingstonian defence on 21 minutes to rifle the ball home.

However, Kingstonian's Nick Rundell levelled the scores five minutes later to set up an interesting second half.

The game remained close until the dying minutes when striker

Mark Lovell slotted the ball home at the far post.

A delighted Lovell told Yourashford: "It was a good win. We played well again and the performance was just as good as the last few games, but this time we got the rub of the green. If we keep producing performances like that, we will pick up results. I am pleased to get my first win in charge."

Ashford take on league leaders Dover at The Homelands today. Town are now up to 14th in Ryman Division One South and are just six points adrift of the top ten.

Lovell added: "The lads will have a real boost going into it with a win over a very good side. It will be a good game. I am quite friendly with Andy Henthall and Darren Hare from my Gillingham days so it will be nice to see them. Mark [Lovell] is a former Dover player so there will be a bit of atmosphere out there from both sets of fans."



LATE WINNER: Ashford Town battled hard to claim their first win since October

yourashford

SPORT IN BRIEF

Unplayable pitch stops Kennington from rising

A FROZEN pitch meant Kennington were denied the chance to move off the bottom of the Kent County League Division 1 East before the winter break.

The winless side were due to host high-flying AFC Sheppey but freezing conditions made the pitch unplayable.

Competition is suspended over the festive period, with matches resuming on January 5, when Kennington play third from bottom Betteshanger Welfare.

Form team are building momentum in New Year

ASHFORD RFC will hope the festive period does not upset their momentum when fixtures resume in the New Year.

The side have struggled in Kent 1 this season but they have begun to find their feet in recent weeks.

A 21-1 win against Sittingbourne on December 15 was their third victory in four games.

They have the chance to put more distance between themselves and the bottom two when they face struggling Askeans on January 5.

Five point festive gap at the top for hockey team

UNBEATEN Ashford Hockey Club's men's firsts will be five points clear at the top of the 1st XI Kent/Sussex Regional League when fixtures resume in the New Year.

The five-week winter break ends on January 12 when Ashford host mid-table Tunbridge Wells.

The match is the reverse fixture from the first day of the season in September, when Ashford ran out 3-1 winners to begin a ten-match winning streak that came to an end earlier this month with a 0-0 draw against title rivals Worthing.

Team hope to be bowled over with indoor victory

THE Christmas period does not stop the action at Ashford Indoor Bowls Club, whose eight-man team travel to play Mote Park on Saturday.

This is the last league fixture before the New Year, with the visitors needing a win to improve their mid-table position.

But they face a tough test against second-placed Mote Park, who have lost just once this season and will look to close the six-point gap on leaders Folkestone.

The match starts at 2pm.

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